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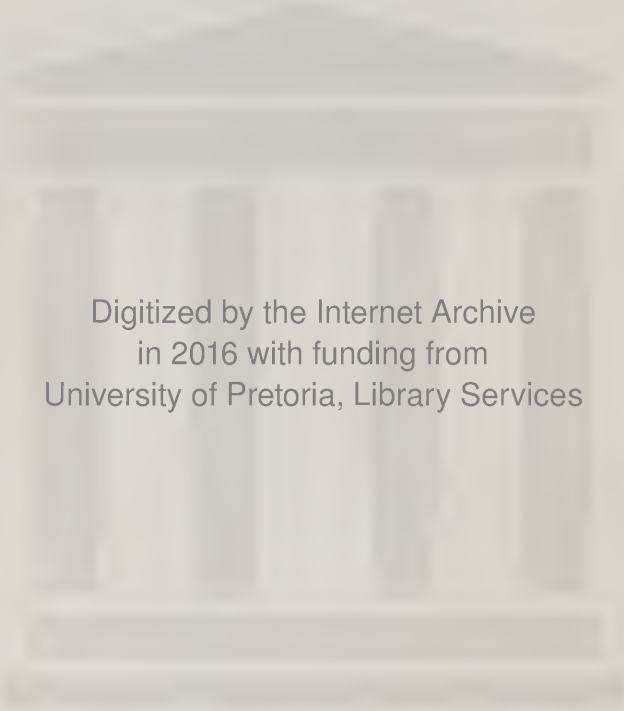
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MOODIE

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# CORRESPONDENCE

BETWEEN

DONALD MOODIE, Esq.

COMPILER AND EDITOR OF THE CAPE RECORDS,

AND

THE REV. JOHN PHILIP, D.D.,

AUTHOR OF RESEARCHES IN SOUTH AFRICA,

RELATIVE TO THE PRODUCTION FOR PUBLICATION OF ALLEGED "OFFICIAL  
AUTHORITY" FOR THE STATEMENT THAT "IN THE YEAR 1774 THE WHOLE  
RACE OF BUSHMEN OR HOTTENTOTS WHO HAD NOT SUBMITTED TO  
SERVITUDE WAS ORDERED TO BE SEIZED OR EXTIRPATED."



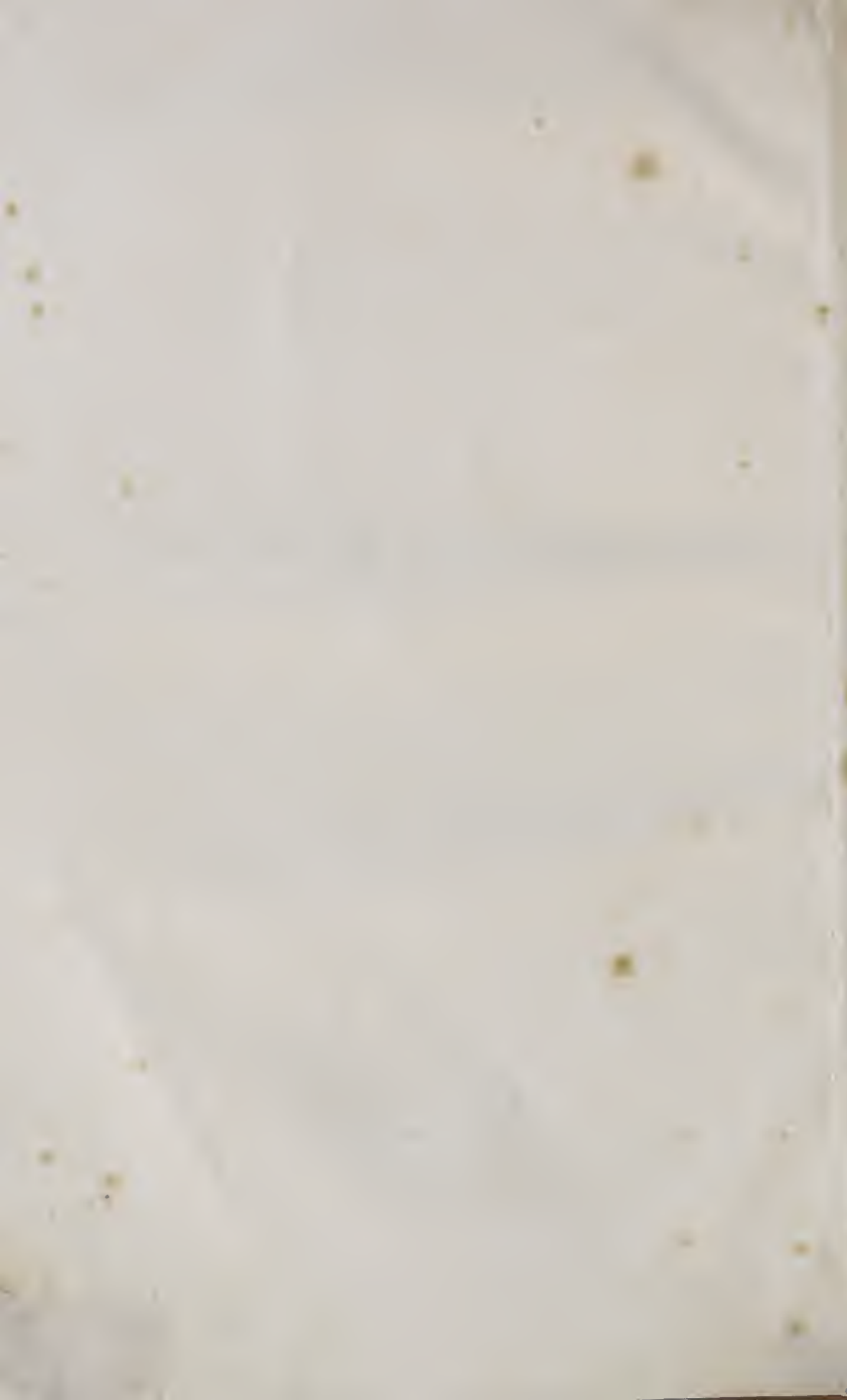
CAPE OF GOOD HOPE:

PUBLISHED BY

A. S. ROBERTSON, CAPE TOWN, AND J. RICHARDSON, LONDON

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1841.



## CORRESPONDENCE, &c. &c.

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Cape Town, May 6th, 1841.

Sir,

I take the liberty of apprising you that I am about to publish, under the sanction of an oath imposed by authority, certain papers long since compiled and translated by myself from the Public Records, relative to the condition and treatment of the Aborigines of South Africa, during the years 1774, 5, 6, and further downwards; and that, among the papers to which I have obtained access, I have not succeeded in procuring the originals or copies of the following, which I find alluded to or cited in your Work entitled "Researches in South Africa," Vol. 1, pp. 42, 3, 4, 5, 6:

1st, "An Order" (of 1774) that "the whole race of Bushmen or Hottentots who had not submitted to servitude was to be seized or extirpated."

2d. The "official reports" rendered "to the Colonial Office," relative to the execution of that order, by "Van Wyk," "Marais," and "Van der Merwe."

3rd. Any proof that the conduct of the person last named, in "concluding a peace with the Bushmen," was "highly resented" by the Government, or that any "Field-Cornets, who had concurred in the measure," were "degraded by Government."

4th. "The journal of Van Jaarsveld, addressed to the Landdrost of Stellenbosch."

As I am required to publish, in addition to the papers compiled by myself, "all such relevant and authenticated documents as

have been, or may hereafter be furnished to me, towards the full developement of the Truth," I have deemed it due to the proper execution of the work with which I have been charged, to put you in possession of the fact, that the papers I have mentioned have not been found by me, in order that—should you be so disposed—you may be enabled, to take such steps as you may deem necessary, to their being placed on record with the other evidence of the period, or, to furnish such information regarding them as may seem likely to lead to their discovery.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

Rev. Dr. Philip.

D. MOODIE.

Cape Town, May 8, 1841.

Sir,

With reference to my letter of the 6th instant,—which I trust was duly received,—I beg further to state, that the publication to which I adverted in that letter is at present suspended, and shall continue to be suspended as much longer as I can entertain a reasonable expectation, that any accession to its contents may be the ultimate result of my former communication, or, of receiving any intimation that such a result need not be any longer awaited. While the additional degree of completeness which the publication would attain by the accession of the papers specified in my last letter would justify a much longer delay :—I beg to say that, should I receive no intimation of your intentions in this matter before the evening of Tuesday the 11th instant, I shall conclude that it is not your purpose to take any notice of the subject; and shall proceed with the publication. In which case I beg to state that the following notice, prefixed to the Record, will remain at all times applicable to the circumstances.

"Such official papers, not enumerated in the printed list, as may be furnished to the Editor in due time during the progress of the publication, will, if authentic and relevant, be inserted in their proper place with respect to date. Such admissible papers as may be procured too late for this purpose, will be published as supplementary to the ensuing number, or introduced as foot notes to the first papers to which the new matter appears to have reference."

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

Rev. Dr. Philip.

D. MOODIE.



Cape Town, 11th May, 1841.

Sir,

The documents to which you refer yours 6th and 8th May, were lent me; and after getting them translated and the translations compared with the originals, I returned them to the gentleman from whom I had borrowed them. I know not what became of them afterwards; but I am now making inquiries on the subject, the result of which you may expect to be made acquainted with.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

D. Moodie, Esq., &c. &c. &c.

JOHN PHILIP.

Cape Town, 13th May, 1841.

Sir,

I beg to state that the suspension of the printing of the papers for 1774, consequent upon my receipt of your letter of the 11th, being attended with considerable inconvenience to the printer, it has become of some importance that I should be apprised, as early as convenient to you, of the length of time likely to be occupied in your inquiries on the subject of the papers referred to in my letter of the 6th.

The inconvenience alluded to (which consists in the necessity of discharging several workmen unless I can furnish constant employment) will, I trust, form a sufficient excuse for this letter, and also—the recovery of the papers in question being now an object common to us both—for the further suggestion, that if you would be pleased to favor me, in the mean time, with—the translations you mention—the name of the gentleman to whom the papers were returned—the names of those by whom they were translated and compared—information whether they consisted of loose papers, or were contained in bound volumes—their respective dates and titles—or any one or more of these, or of any other clues to their discovery which you can most conveniently furnish—my familiarity with the subject, and my knowledge of the documentary contents and deficiencies of the several Public Offices, would, I believe, enable me to save much needless trouble and delay.

I conceive it to be my duty not merely to meet the facilities here suggested, by corresponding accommodation on my part, but at once to furnish you with all I have found upon the subject,

which has in fact been printed in the *Dutch*\* for the last three years, a copy of which, and, as far as published, of my English translations, with full access to the volumes containing the M.S. originals, are at your command when required.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

D. MOODIE.

To the Rev. John Philip, D. D.,  
&c. &c.

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Cape Town, May 18th, 1841.

Sir,

In answer to your letters of the 6th, 8th, and 13th May, I have to inform you that I have made the enquiries I referred to in my note 11th May, and that the only information I have at present to communicate, you will find contained in the following statements :—

Shortly after the arrival of the Crown Commissioners, J. T. Bigge, Esq., and Major, now Sir Wm. M. G. Colebrooke, in this Colony, I put into their hands all the extracts from the Colonial Records which were afterwards published in my *Researches*; at the same time requesting them to compare them with the originals.

On looking back to dates I find that the extracts subjected to the above scrutiny, were made soon after my arrival in this Colony and some years before that scrutiny took place, so that the more recent disappearance of the originals can have no connexion with the translations made from them for my use.

For your further information on this head I beg to lay before you the following extracts from a pamphlet published by order of the House of Commons, entitled, “Report of the Commissioners of Inquiry upon the Hottentot population of the Cape of Good Hope, and of the Missionary Institutions,”—and published in July, 1830.

By the extract from page 1, of the above report you will discover that the instructions on this subject given to the Crown Commissioners by the Colonial Government in Downing-street had a *special* reference to the papers and documents I had de-

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\* The words printed in *Italics* in this correspondence were underlined in the originals.

livered to them respecting the Hottentots and Bushmen of the Cape of Good Hope, and that along with the report of the Commissioners, Mr. Bigge transmitted to the *Colonial Office* the papers and documents which were delivered to himself and his colleagues by me.

In the second extract taken from the second page of the Report you will not fail to remark that the Commissioners had *examined the Official Records* in reference to my papers and documents and that *that very order* for the extirpating of the Bushmen which is the subject of your inquiries was seen by them years after it had been copied for me.

Extracts from the Report; being a "Return to an Address of the Honorable the House of Commons," &c. &c. &c.

Extract 1st.

"Sir,

"In compliance with the instructions contained in your letter 3d Aug. 1828, received by my colleagues at Mauritius after my departure I have the honor to submit to you my report upon the state of the Hottentots and Bushmen of the Cape of Good Hope, and at the same time to transmit the papers and documents relating to them, and to the Missionary Institutions which were delivered to us by Dr. Philip."

Extract 2d.

"The general occupation of the country over which the native tribes were scattered, and the distribution of it among the Dutch settlers exposed them to the early vengeance as well as to the depredations of the Bushmen; and the *Official Records* make frequent mention of the expeditions that were undertaken to repress them and which seem to have proceeded on one occasion with the *merciless intention of extirpating the whole race.*"

I am, Sir,

Yr. obednt., humble Servant,

JOHN PHILIP.

Donald Moodie, Esq. &c. &c. &c.

Cape Town, May 22d, 1841.

Sir,

As your letter of the 18th leaves me some reason to expect some further communication, of the result of your inquiries concerning the missing papers, or which may be otherwise relevant to the subject of my previous applications,—I beg to inform you, that, having found other employment for the printers, which will occupy them for some days, I shall not proceed with the

publication of the papers for 1774, while I have reason to hope that any of those now missing may, by any of the means which I took the liberty of suggesting in my letter of the 13th, or otherwise, be ultimately recovered or identified. While this will obviate the necessity of any haste, I beg to say that it would be desirable, if convenient to you, that I should be informed, *towards the middle of next week*, whether such additional information as you may be desirous to communicate is likely to lead to any accession to the contents of the publication in which I am engaged.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

The Rev. John Philip, D.D.

D. MOODIE.

Cape Town, May 29, 1841.

Sir,

The grounds upon which I still indulge a hope of being favoured with your co-operation, towards the recovery of the missing papers which form the *proper* subject of this correspondence, are:—

1st. Because the subject of the inquiries in which you were engaged on the 11th, and which, on the 18th, you had “made,” was, as defined by you, “what became of *them*,” (that is, of the originals of those papers,) after they were returned by you; and because, upon that subject your said letter conveys no information, though it holds out hopes of a further communication;—and:—

2dly. Because the information which your said letter does contain, with respect to the disposal of certain “Extracts from the Colonial Records which were afterwards published in the *Researches*,” does not appear to relate to *the papers now in question*; of which (with the immaterial exception of the Report of Van Jaarsveld) I believe that no *Extracts* are published in the *Researches*; and consequently—should it have been your intention to refer me to the Colonial Office in Downing Street, for either the originals, or your translations or extracts,—you will at once perceive that your letter of the 18th does not furnish me with the substantive grounds which are necessary as the foundation of an official application upon the subject.

Lest, however, your not having replied to my letter of the 22d

should have arisen from any misapprehension on my part, I trust you will permit me to explain that—whatever may be considered to be implied in your letter of the 18th—I do not understand you to have alleged that the copies or translations of the documents now in question, procured by you in the manner you have stated, were put by you into the hands of the Commissioners, and transmitted by Mr. Bigge to the Colonial Office.

Neither do I understand you to have stated, that there has, at any time, been seen by any one, originals, copies, translations or extracts of any other order relative to the Bushmen, in the year 1774, than that of May 17, of that year, embodying and sanctioning instructions of the 19th April, of which order and instructions sworn copies and translations are published by me in the Record—pp 38 to 52 of the Dutch Edition, and 25 to 32 of the English—and the originals of which, as before stated, are open to your inspection, or to that of any other person upon your part.

Should I have misapprehended your meaning:—and should it have been your intention to inform me that orders of any other dates than those above specified, or any orders not identical, in tenor as well as in date, with those so published by me, were actually issued and actually “seen,” and that translations or extracts of those *other* orders were put by you into the hands of the Commissioners, and are, or ought to be, among the papers transmitted by Mr. Bigge to the Colonial Office in Downing-street, I trust you will have no objection to set me right, so that I may be enabled to direct my inquiries accordingly.

The delay necessarily attendant upon the course which I should, in that case, pursue, might, however, still be obviated, should you see cause to furnish me, in the mean time, with any of the clues before indicated to the discovery of the originals; or with any proof of their having “disappeared.”

As the temporary employment which I had found for the printers upon another portion of the Records is not likely to occupy them beyond the end of next week; and as a portion of those of 1774 has stood in type for the last three weeks, awaiting the result of your inquiries, I trust you will not deem me unnecessarily importunate when I state, that, unless favoured, during the course of next week, with a reply to my letter of the 22d, or to this, I can come to no other conclusion than that you acquiesce in the construction I have put upon the terms of your letter of the 18th, as above stated, and I shall accordingly neither address myself to Government, with a view to an apparently needless reference to Downing-street, nor any longer await your assistance, in order to place your “official authority” on record.

with the other evidence of the period, which I shall proceed to publish in as complete a form as—in the absence of the original reports of the four persons named in my letter of the 6th, and of *any such* order of 1774 for “extirpating the Bushmen,” as is described in your Work—I have been enabled to give it:—The notice cited in my letter of the 8th, still remaining, as then stated—“applicable to the circumstances”—so long as the publication of the Cape Records may be continued by me.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

D. MOODIE.

The Rev. J. Philip, D.D., &c.,  
Cape Town.

Cape Town, 7th June, 1841.

Sir,

I have the honor to report, for the information of His Excellency the Governor, that the papers specified in the margin, of which the three first appear, by an entry in the Journals, dated 13th January, 1775, to have been *then* “in the Colonial Office,” have been for some years, and still are, missing therefrom; and that, upon reference to the Rev. Dr. Philip, in whose work some account is given of their alleged contents, I was informed by him, on the 11th ulto., that these papers (among others) were “lent to (him,) and that after getting them translated, and the translations compared with the originals, (he) had returned them to the gentleman from whom (he) had borrowed them.”

As I have not succeeded in procuring any further information on the subject, in reply to my letters of the 13th, 22d, and 29th May, I feel it my duty to bring this, apparently unauthorized, abstraction of documents from the Public Records under the notice of His Excellency the Governor; and to state, that, although the condensed substance of the missing Reports is entered in the Journals of the period, it seems very desirable that the original papers,—to the discovery of which a clue is thus offered,—should be returned to the Colonial Office, in order, not only that their full contents may be included among the other evidence of the period, now printing; but that the original



papers above described, which are the undoubted property of the Government, may be restored to their legitimate place of deposit.

Two other documents (*vide margin*), referred to, in the above quoted extract from Dr. Philip's letter, as having been also translated and compared for, and returned by him, I have no other reason to report as missing; but, as their alleged contents are of the highest interest and importance, and as their authenticity appears to be confidently insisted on, in a letter addressed to me by Dr. Philip on the 18th ult., I can only add, that it is much to be desired that the Reverend Gentleman could be induced to furnish his assistance towards the recovery or identification of the supposed originals; more particularly should the "order of 1774," to which he refers, be any other than that dated 17th May of that year, sworn copies and translations of which order I have placed at his disposal.

1st. "An order of 1774 that the whole race of Bushmen or Hottentots, who had not submitted to servitude, should be seized or extirpated."

2d. "Proof" (title and date not specified) that the conduct of an officer who "concluded a peace with the Bushmen" was highly resented by the Government," and that "all the Field-Cornets who concurred in the measure were degraded by the Government."

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

D. MOODIE.

The Hon. the Secretary to Government, &c.

Church-square, June 5, 1841.

(Received in the Bank, on Monday the 7th, at half past Twelve.)

Sir,

You must excuse me for not entering into any of the details suggested by the queries contained in your letter of the 29th May.

I am still engaged in prosecuting the inquiries on which I entered at your suggestion; but the length of time which has elapsed since these documents were first brought under my notice, the very slight attention I paid to them at the time, not then imagining that I should ever have occasion to make use of them, and the deaths of some of the parties by whose means I found access to them, have thrown difficulties in my way that I did not anticipate, and which I have not yet been able wholly to overcome.

My inquiries are however still continued, and the result will be communicated to you, but as I cannot specify any particular time

when such a communication may be in my power, you will not I hope delay your publication on that account.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant.

JOHN PHILIP.

D. Moodie, Esq., &c. &c.

Cape Town, June 8, 1841.

Sir,

With reference to my letter of yesterday's date I have the honor to state that I have received a note from Dr. Philip in which he says, " my inquiries (relative to the papers in question) are still continued, and the result will be communicated to you."

Under these circumstances I would respectfully submit that there does not appear to be an immediate necessity for any reference upon the subject, on the part of the Government.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

D. MOODIE.

The Hon. the Secretary to Government, &c.

Cape Town, June 11, 1841.

Sir,

In your note of the 5th instant, you express a hope that I will not delay the publication of the papers of 1774, until it may be in your power to communicate the result of your still continued inquiries after the originals of the documents specified in my letter of the 6th May.

The chief objection to which this suggestion appears to me to be liable, is that, were I to act upon it, I could not effectually prevent the unfavorable impression, as regards the completeness of the work, which an obvious construction of the unexplained meaning of your letter of the 18th May is calculated to create: namely, that the order relative to the Bushmen, which I have published, under date 17th May, 1774, is not the only order issued, on the same subject, during that year; but that another order, and one of a very different tenor, ought to be found in a compilation which purports to contain the words of all the orders extant, which have been issued upon that, and all similar subjects.

Whatever may have been your intended meaning in your letter of the 18th May, it would seem to be in your power, by explaining that meaning, to remove the unfavorable impression to which



I have alluded, should you, on collating your translations with mine, see cause so to do.

That this is in your power appears, not only from your letter of the 11th May, but also from your being enabled, on the 18th, to announce the absolute identity of an order said to have been seen by the Commissioners of Inquiry, with "*that very order* for extirpating the Bushmen which is the subject of (my) inquiries."

Other means, by which it appeared, and still appears to me that this doubt may be removed by you, are specified in my letter of the 13th May; and I am still of opinion that I cannot, with propriety, proceed with the publication of the papers of 1774, while those means are still unexhausted, or while your own inquiries after the absent originals are still continued, with any reasonable prospect of success.

I trust that you will agree with me that this objection is of sufficient weight, I need not, therefore, advert to others of less importance.

The object of this correspondence being the recovery or identification of certain papers possessing the highest degree of interest and importance, the time necessarily occupied in the search is a minor consideration; and I trust that it may not tend unduly to hasten your inquiries, when I apprise you, that I have taken measures for finding further employment for the press, which may continue from 10 to 14 days from *this* date; and I shall hope to be favoured with as early intimation as it may be in your power to give, that the remaining difficulties to which you allude have, either been wholly overcome, or ascertained to be insurmountable by the means you have hitherto employed, or may hereafter employ for that end.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

The Rev. J. Philip, D.D.

D. MOODIE.

Cape Town, June 18, 1841.

Sir,

With reference to my former letters upon the same subject, I have the honor to enclose for your information printed copies, in the original Dutch, of all the papers relative to the natives, for the years 1770 to 1774, both inclusive, which I have compiled from the Colonial Records: as also of my English translations of these papers down to the 23d May, 1774; all of which were published here in 1838. These papers may probably facilitate the inquiries upon which you were pleased to enter at my suggestion,

and of which I trust to be favored with the result as soon as convenient to you.

I have the honor to be,  
Sir,  
Your most obedient humble servant,  
D. MOODIE.

The Rev. J. Philip, D.D., Church-square.

Cape Town, Tuesday, June 22, 1841.

Sir,

I trust you will pardon me for making another effort to bring this correspondence to the desired end.

My object being the establishment of the truth, upon the most important branch of a subject which has long engaged a large share of your attention as well as of mine; you will, perhaps, allow me to furnish you with the enclosed printed List of papers, relative to that subject, which I compiled and circulated, by order of Government, in the year 1836—7, for the express purpose of ensuring the completeness of the subsequently published Records, of which I last week sent you the portion extending from 1770 to 1774.

You will perceive that this list—with its three supplements of documents since procured—like the series of papers already in your hands—contains no notice of any other order of 1774 than that of May 17.

I must also remark that neither the preparatory list nor the "Record" contains any notice of an alleged *previous* "project" stated by you to have been formed by the Colonists, "to make the Colonial Government a party in assisting them to enslave or exterminate all that remained of the original inhabitants," nor of the circumstance, also alleged by you, that "this scheme of the Colonists was therefore speedily authorised by the Government, which had by this time (1770) declined from the purity of its principles," &c.

An inspection of the entire and original Records, which contain *all* the authentic acts of the Government from 1770 to 1774 inclusive, has satisfied me, and would, I believe, satisfy you, that no such orders as you have cited were issued in either year; and you might thus be enabled to ascertain whether you can, consistently with truth and justice, remove that unfavorable impression, with respect to the fidelity of the compilation entrusted to me, which I have already represented to you that your letter of the 18th May is calculated to create; and of which I conceive that I have now some cause to complain: inasmuch as you have

suffered it to rest—not upon a distinct allegation that you are cognizant of any other order than that of May 17—but upon a passage of your said letter in which this appears to be strongly implied, and the meaning of which passage you decline to explain.

My present object, however, is to convince, by placing the means of full conviction within your reach. I regret, therefore, that I cannot send you the original Records; but those from 1770 to 1774 inclusive may be seen and examined, daily, during office hours, upon application to the Cashier at the Government Bank, within a few yards of your door, by you or by any one furnished with your authority in writing.

Whatever use you may meanwhile make of these several facilities, I trust you will not consider it unreasonable, or more than is justly due to the proper execution of the work with which I have been charged, if I request that you will be pleased to inform me, *before the close of this week*;—

1st, Whether you have any reason to believe that any other orders relative to the Bushmen, than those I have published and placed in your hands, were issued by the Government in 1770 or in 1774, and if so, whether you will communicate to me your copies, translations, or extracts, or the dates of those other orders, or any reason for your belief in their authenticity?

2d, Whether your inquiries after the missing papers, are now in a more advanced stage than at the date of your last letter; or whether you as yet perceive any prospect of a definite limit—of any termination—successful or unsuccessful—to those inquiries?

You may readily concede to me, that it is extremely difficult to draw any practical distinction between an indefinite postponement, without cause assigned, and a polite intimation, that—as far as my publication is concerned in their result—your inquiries are already ended.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

Rev. J. Philip, D.D., &c. &c.

D. MOODIE.

Church-square.

Cape Town, June 29th, 1841.

Sir,

Not having been favored, during last week, with any reply to my letter of the 22d instant, nor with any notice of the receipt of those of the 11th and 18th, I have now the honor to request that you will be pleased to inform me whether these letters have reached your hands.

I would still persuade myself that, when you take into con-

sideration the *capacities* in which we respectively stand, with relation to the subject of this correspondence; and the inferences deducible from your suggestion of the 5th instant, *in connection with those arising from your letter of the 18th May*,—you will perceive that *neither* of us can—with justice to ourselves—permit this matter to remain in its present anomalous and unsatisfactory position; and that it remains with you, either to favor me with such parts of the information I have requested for my guidance, as it may be in your power to communicate; or—should you have seen cause to reconsider the evidence upon which you were led to found the several statements I have cited from your work—with such an explanation as may justify me for proceeding with my publication, without awaiting the result of your inquiries; and for committing all the rest of this correspondence to the flames.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

D. MOODIE.

The Rev. Dr. J. Philip, &c. &c.

P.S.—One hour's examination of the Records would, I believe, enable you to give the explanation to which I allude: they are, as before stated, accessible during office hours, and I shall await an answer—to be delivered at the Government Bank—until the close of *this* week.

D. M.

Cape Town, July 6th, 1841.

Sir,

After the example which I had such recent occasion to furnish, of the ease with which the authors of unfounded surmise may be reduced to silence, by a statement of facts; and of the futility of the attempt to defend untenable allegations, by others still less tenable; I will confess to you, that I did not expect that I should so soon find it necessary again to suffer my attention to be diverted from the simple duties of compiling and translating, in order to defend a work which it required considerable ingenuity to assail.\*

Even when addressing you, upon points which you had rendered it somewhat delicate to handle, I did not propose to allow myself to be drawn aside from my simple object as Editor (namely to ascertain whether you would, or would not furnish certain papers for insertion in my work) into any examination of your reasons for withholding them.

\* *Vide*,—"Inquiry into the Justice and Expediency of publishing the Cape Records," &c.—A. S. ROBERTSON, Cape Town, J. RICHARDSON, London.

But—in spite of this resolution, which is, I believe, sufficiently marked in my former letters, the course which you have been pleased to adopt, in your letters of the 18th May, and 5th June, and in not favoring me with any reply to my subsequent letters, compels me, I hope for the last time, to trespass upon your attention, at greater length than I at first contemplated, and in a different manner.

I trust that I have already satisfied you, that the result of your inquiries, after the originals of the documents specified in my letter of the 6th May, in as far as it has been communicated to me, is calculated to retard, rather than to advance the simple object with which this correspondence was commenced; and were it not that you gave me, at the same time, reason to expect some further information *relative to that object*, I should hardly have felt justified in protracting this correspondence beyond the point at which it became sufficiently evident to myself that I had no further information to expect, and that—from whatever cause—you declined making any endeavour to place on record the “official authority” now in question.

My last hope rested on the “*capacities*” in which we corresponded.

The capacity in which you were addressed by me, was that of a Reverend Author, who, in the work from which I cited the passages contained in my letter of the 6th of May, thus introduced himself, his motives, and his claims to credibility, to the notice of the public:—

“If there be any truth in the remark of Dean Swift, that the man who makes three blades of grass grow, where only two grew before, deserves well of his country, the *faithful and able missionary* may be allowed to occupy a chief seat among the friends and benefactors of the human race.”—(*Preface to Philip's Researches*, p. I.)

“In laying before the public the oppressions of the native tribes.... I have found it necessary to confine the proofs of my allegations to facts and *documents in my own possession*, and to what has come under my own observation.”—(Ib. p. XII.)

“I consider myself personally responsible for *all* the statements contained in these volumes.”—(Ib. p. XXII.)

“When the *Christian Missionary* looks at a savage tribe, and regards them in the *light of divine truth*, he feels that he can relinquish every earthly comfort, and even life itself, if he may be the means of raising them to the enjoyment of the Christian hope. While the man who may be standing beside him..... is all the time thinking, how he may enrich himself, by getting possession of their children and cattle. This difference in their *principles*, gives rise to the difference that marks their conduct. *The good Shepherd* is ready to lay down his life for the flock; the wolf never comes into the fold but to kill and steal.”—(Ib. p. XXXIII.)

“To give a *faithful sketch of their past sufferings*, and of their present condition is my chief object. *I shall in every instance lay my authority before*



*the reader.* Should the facts I have to disclose give pain to individuals, I have only to say, that *the correctness of my statements* is the only reply which the *dignity of truth* permits me to offer. I dare not shrink either from the labour or the responsibility of bringing before the world, for its impartial decision, a series of wrongs and outrages, inflicted on the innocent and defenceless. To have seen them, imposes upon me, as a *sacred duty, the task* of holding them up to the public eye, and, to use the words of Milton, “When *GOD commands* &c.”—[*Philip's Researches*, vol I. p. 3.]

To the Reverend author who claimed such sanction for his motives, such credit for the truth of his statements, I applied the more confidently, when I found that, eight years later, he had stated to a Committee of the House of Commons, in a paper deliberately written:—

“I feel no hesitation in saying that I am still prepared to show, that I had ground for any charge of the kind I ever made.... I am not afraid that any man, or Government can ever convict me of exaggeration in any statement I ever made with regard to our missions in South Africa.”—(*Evidence before the Aborigines Committee*, p. 622.)

I could not fail to bear in mind that, in the particular instance now in question, your authority had been implicitly relied on in the Report of that Committee; for which report, after an ineffectual attempt at denial had been made on your part, you had tacitly admitted your “moral responsibility.”\*

Such was the capacity in which you were addressed by me, on the 6th May.

The capacity in which I then took the liberty of addressing you, was that of the authorised, and sworn compiler of certain papers, in which it was at least possible that an author, such as you had described yourself to be, could and would supply certain real or supposed deficiencies; and in that capacity you responded to the call.

I requested access to certain papers, which you could give or withhold at your pleasure;—but I carefully, and pointedly avoided irrelevant or personal discussion.

I had the best reason to think that you might be desirous of proving that your statements *deserved* credence, and you have satisfied yourself with an attempt to show that they have *obtained* it.

I asked for your voluntarily offered *Proofs*, in order to place them upon the Record; and you have sent me, unsolicited, such as it is—your *Plea*.

You have thus compelled me to join issue; and to submit to you the following observations, supported by the following proofs:—

I must remark then, in the first place, that your letter of the

\* *Vide* Appendix A.

18th May appeared to me to be entirely *irrelevant* to the subject, as stated by me on the 6th and 8th, and as met by you on the 11th, inasmuch as you have neither furnished me with any of the papers applied for by me, and inquired after by you, nor with any clue to their discovery, although some, if not all, of those indicated by me on the 13th are confessedly in your hands; and because, departing from the subject of inquiry—you seek for confirmation of your own statements,—not in the “official authority” on which they were professedly founded—but in the secondary, and *as yet* inadmissible, evidence of what was subsequently written by others.

In saying that your letter affords *no* clue to the discovery of the missing papers, I do not lose sight of your statement that you “put into the hands of the Commissioners all the extracts from the Colonial Records afterwards published in the Researches,” for I have already shown that the papers now in question do not fall within that category; and your acquiescence in my statement now shows, that you did not intend that it should include them, at least, otherwise than by implication, and consequently, your mention of what you gave to the Commissioners was entirely foreign to the subject of inquiry.

That subject has been changed by you; and is now:—the contents of a written document, of “that very order,” which I trust that I shall soon satisfy you, that you have somewhat prematurely regarded as “disappeared.”

The question, thus raised by you, relates to the tenor of an order issued in 1774.

The substance of the order of May 17, 1774, according to the *Evidence* before the Aborigines Committee, was, “In case of the Bushmen refusing to make a permanent peace, their being compelled to do so by force.”

According to the *words* of the substantive part of an order of the same date, as published by me:—“In the first place endeavouring to induce them to consent to a permanent peace, but should there be no means of effecting this, in such case to bring them to reason by force.”

These authorities have both the same specific date.

According to your account of an order of 1774—“The whole race of Bushmen or Hottentots who had not submitted to servitude, was ordered to be seized or extirpated.”

According to the *Report* of the Aborigines Committee,—“In 1774, an order was issued for the extirpation of the whole of the Bushmen.”

These authorities are both remarkable for the absence of any specific date.

It is not alleged by any of these authorities that more than one order was issued on the subject; though such appears to be implied in your letter of the 18th May.

The evidence of the Commissioners, which you now offer in support of your own statement of the contents of that document, is, *ratione officii*, entitled to the highest respect:—but, with respect to the contents of an existing document, or of a document not proved to have disappeared, their evidence—even were it admitted to be evidence in point—is, I submit, clearly inadmissible, until it be ascertained that direct evidence upon that point is not to be had; and besides, the well known object of the publication to which you were requested to contribute, is to enable the Reader to see all such orders with his own eyes—and not through the eyes of others.

Upon these grounds, I trust you will concur with me in the opinion, that it is altogether immaterial whether the instructions of the Commissioners had reference to the papers you had delivered, or not; more particularly as you do not even allege that you delivered to them the papers now in question; and that it is equally immaterial whether they complied with your request, and scrutinized your translations, or not—and were this of any importance, it now appears that you are not prepared to deny, that “that very order” is identical, in tenor and in date, with the order published by me, which is present, and, as above cited, speaks for itself.

I shall therefore pass over, without further comment, the singularly unsatisfactory process of reasoning by which you would conduct me to these several conclusions; which, if legitimately arrived at, and fully admitted, are still quite immaterial to the present question; and, whatever may be their tendency to prove that the Commissioners adopted your statement, they fall far short of that “official authority” which alone can justify your statement, and prove it to be no error.

Much stronger confirmation *of its kind* might have been found in the Report of the Select Committee on Aborigines, who also are presumed to have “seen” the evidence upon which their opinions are founded.

The Report of Mr. Bigge adverts generally to what was notoriously the subject of many of the Colonial Records, and alludes, in guarded terms, to what “*seemed*” to be the object of expeditions against the Bushmen “on one occasion” to which no date is assigned.

But the language of the higher authority of the Select Committee is, like your statement in the Researches, to the point, precise, positive, and circumstantial.



"In the year 1774 an order *was* issued for the extirpation of the whole of the Bushmen, and *three* Commandos, or military expeditions, *were* sent out, to execute it."

And yet I presume that it will not be pretended—at least by any one conversant with the rules of evidence—and the construction of Parliamentary Reports—that either allegation is of any value whatever, when compared with that of the *ipsissima verba* of "that very order."

I have next to notice the only reason you have been pleased to assign, for the non-production of a higher description of evidence than any you have yet tendered—*your own carefully compared and scrutinized translations*; and for withholding, from the authorized compiler of such evidence,—whose title to it you have admitted—every clue to the discovery of your originals.

You state—"On looking back to dates, I find that the extracts subjected to the above scrutiny, were made soon after my arrival in this Colony, and some years before that scrutiny took place, so that the more recent disappearance of the originals can have no connection with the translations made from them for my use."

I trust that, if I succeed in establishing a connection which seems to have escaped your notice, I shall also succeed in removing your only objection to the production of the translations in question; or at least to "looking back to the dates" *of the original papers*, as well as to that at which "the translations were made for your use."

It may perhaps be granted that the translations made for your use have no necessary connection with the *mode*, or even with the assumed fact of the "disappearance of the originals," but they are, notwithstanding, most intimately and inseparably connected with the main objects of tracing, discovering, and above all, of *identifying* the originals; as you will probably admit, when that which has, for the last three years, been repeatedly demonstrated, without contradiction, in the public papers, is brought to your especial notice, namely:—that the dates, names, and other particulars—which are, in the case of what you still term, the "order for extirpating the Bushmen," common to the only order of 1774 found by me, and to your account of "that very order,"—must prove beyond all dispute, whether your translations relate, as implied, though not alleged in your said letter, to another order of which the original has disappeared—and of which in that case the next best evidence is in your hands—or are, as believed by me, on the grounds to be submitted, merely *extremely* inaccurate translations, extracts, or rather abstracts of an existing document, of which several authentic originals exist in manuscript, of which several hundreds of authenticated copies and translations,

in Dutch and English, are printed and published, and of which at least one copy in each language is now in your hands.

In now laying before you, as I shall proceed to do, my reasons for assigning a precise date to whatever version of the order you may have, I shall at once establish the connection between your translations and the main object of identifying your missing originals, and come to the consideration of that portion of your letter which has compelled me to enter into a discussion which I took some pains to avoid.

Your *main* conclusion, so pointedly announced in your letter of the 18th May,—i. e. that the Commissioners of Inquiry had seen “*that very order* for extirpating the Bushmen”—derives its *sole* importance from its obvious, and tacitly acknowledged tendency to raise a presumption, or a suspicion, which is neither warranted by evidence, nor supported by any positive allegation on your part, that some other order than that published by me was issued in 1774; although that presumption would be entirely destroyed by the production of your carefully prepared translations, or even by the mere mention of the date of your order!

Your persistence in an endeavour to raise this presumption conveys an indirect, but a most serious imputation, not only against the completeness, but also against the character and conduct of the work for which there has been imposed upon me a very unusual weight of responsibility; and I am therefore personally called upon, to meet this imputation, by opposing to it the proofs which are now in my hands, and which I have vainly thrown open to you.\*

The *onus* of proving your own positions properly rests with you; and yet, you not only withhold your proofs, but you leave it uncertain whether you have taken up any fixed position whatever.

Thus, you leave it a debatable matter—though directly appealed to on that point—whether the documents now in question were among those given to the Commissioners of Inquiry, or not—you avoid saying, in tangible terms,—whether the transla-

Government Bank, Cape Town, July 5th, 1841.

\*Sir,—In reply to your inquiry on the subject, I beg to inform you that the five volumes of Records for the years 1770—74, which I received from you on the 22d ult.—in order to be produced upon the application of the Rev. Dr. Philip, or of any one furnished with his authority—have been daily kept at hand for that purpose; and that no application has been hitherto made on the subject, by Dr. Philip, or by any one on his part.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

D. Moodie, Esq.,  
Late acting President Govt. Bank.

R. J. LOEDOLFF, Cashier.

tion and comparison announced by you on the 11th May was a separate act, or after all, merely identical with that implied scrutiny of *these* papers, which resolves itself, on examination, into an alleged "request" to compare certain *other* papers.

I also *requested* to be favored with some clue to the discovery of the originals; the *result* of that request did not depend upon me, and it furnishes the best illustration of your argument.

The terms you have employed are so guarded,—whether accidentally or otherwise,—that it is even left an open question, whether the translations made for your "use," are or are not producible for your justification; and you thus reduce me to the necessity of taking the liberty to confine you to one or other of two opposite positions, and of producing positive and negative proof to meet both.

I shall not adopt this course with respect to any of the alternative positions just stated; but shall leave it to you to express, so soon as you may have determined upon, the meaning in which you desire that they should be understood.

I confine myself to your main position, which, like the rest, is not expressed with the degree of precision that could have been desired.

If you mean to say—as might be fairly presumed from your not replying to my letter of the 29th May—that "*that very order* for extirpating the Bushmen" is, in tenor and date, identical with that published by me—the question is at an end; for it is in the power of any one to judge, whether you have thus correctly described *that* order.

But I fear, that it is incontestible, that you meant to cause, and still mean to suffer it to be understood, that your said description relates to another order; and that—though you do not venture a direct allegation to that effect—you persist notwithstanding, in spite of the proofs in your own hands, and of those with which I have furnished you—in the endeavour to impress a belief in the accuracy of your original statement, by raising a presumption, that an order, indetical in substance—not with mine—but with yours, has, somehow or other, "disappeared" after it was "seen."

I have not come to this painful conclusion before affording you ample opportunity for explanation, or before bringing it repeatedly to your notice, that the suspicion which your letter is calculated to excite—where nothing need be left to surmise—involves an imputation of a very serious description, which it much concerns me to remove.

I have exhausted every endeavour to effect this necessary purpose by convincing you; it is due to my work and to myself

that I should now try to convince others; and I am not to blame, if that conviction to which you have refused to open your own eyes, is now obtained against you.

I shall accordingly take the most effectual means of satisfying all who *will* avail themselves of the opportunities I shall afford for an ocular inspection of the Records, that it is *physically*, as well as morally impossible that any such orders as you have described *could* have disappeared; or—without something far worse than culpable negligence on my part—have been omitted in my preparatory List, and in my edition of the Records.

This proof will depend upon a circumstance palpable to observation, but with which it may be fairly presumed that you have been hitherto unacquainted.

Fortunately for the honor of human nature, all important orders, emanating from the Dutch Government of this Colony, from the first settlement downwards, are to be seen, and shall be seen—reordered—not in single detached papers, liable to furtive removal, or to arbitrary disappearance, when their supposed contents are alleged to have been extracted and “scrutinized” for the “uses” to which they may be applied by any one—but in ponderous bound volumes, written consecutively from page to page, and not in one copy, or one volume only for the same period, but in *three* different volumes, of “Journals,” “Resolutions,” and “Letters Dispatched,” all of which Records for the years 1770—74 still exist in a state of perfect preservation, and *now* lie for public inspection, on the counter of the Government Bank.

From the vantage ground upon which I stand, as a sworn and responsible officer of the Government, over an author who has been indebted for such portions of information as he may have obtained, to such means as you have described; as well as from my having laid open, formerly to you, and now to the public, all the evidence within my reach, while you carefully withhold from me all means of access to the sources of your information, I feel that I might, without undue presumption, claim for my statements upon this subject, a considerable degree of comparative weight.

With regard, however, to the facts which you have now compelled me to submit to your consideration, I shall not only lay my proofs entirely open, but I shall here state the reasons for my belief in the truth of each of my allegations.

FIRST, then; as to the secondary point, of the Commissioners having seen “that very order for extirpating the Bushmen,” I beg leave, with submission, to question that fact.

*Firstly*; because you have offered no adequate proof in support of it.

*Secondly*; because I trust I shall be able to show that no such order was ever issued.

*Thirdly*; because there are to be seen in the Colonial office, carefully preserved, bound, and indexed, no less than four hundred and thirty seven references, received from the Commissioners, for particular volumes, specific documents, or other information, between the years 1823—1827 inclusive, written occasionally upon small scraps of paper, and embracing inquiries relative to many hundred documents; in which minute series of references *none of the papers or volumes now in question are mentioned.*

*Fourthly*; because, upon an address of the House of Commons (1st July, 1834)—

“*For copies or extracts of the Evidence and Information collected by the Commissioners of Eastern Inquiry, from 1823 to 1827 inclusive, relative to the condition and treatment of the Native Inhabitants of Southern Africa. . . . also copies or extracts of Orders, &c., and of Reports communicated to the Commissioners, or Commanders of Expeditions against the tribes beyond the frontier,*” &c.

Mr. Commissioner Colebrooke (August 18, 1834) wrote to the Secretary of State for the Colonies (Mr. Spring Rice) as follows:—

“In pursuance of the instructions conveyed to me, that I should make a selection of papers from the Records of the Eastern Commissioners, in order to afford detailed information to Parliament relative to the condition and treatment of the native inhabitants of Southern Africa, I have now the honor to enclose a schedule of evidence collected by Mr. Bigge and myself, *which I have carefully revised.*”—(*Parl. papers. 10th May, 1835, p. 1.*)

You are well aware at whose instance that Address was presented, and that Return obtained. By whom much of the “selection” of evidence was communicated to the Commissioners, is evident, not only from its peculiar character, but from your letter of the 18th May. It is enough to say that the selection is not remarkable—witness the report of Colonel Collins, the printing of which is now completed—for the *omission of such extracts as your account of that order.*

And yet this “carefully revised schedule” does not contain any “copy” or any “extract” of “that very order for extirpating the Bushmen,” which, if your statement be correct, was actually “seen” by the Commissioners, “years after it had been copied for you.”

But this carefully revised schedule does contain, on the contrary, among the Notes of Mr. Boreherds, and under the true date of the only order of which the precise date has been specified by any one, a fair abstract of the order issued on the 17th May,



1774—being the *only* evidence upon the subject laid before the Aborigines' Committee—and in which note your account, and that contained in the Report of the same Committee, of “that very order for extirpating the Bushmen,” is, as above shown, *directly contradicted*.—(*Ib.* p. 19.)

Upon this negative evidence I beg leave to remark, that, had the Commissioners actually examined an authentic copy of the order, *such as you describe it*, the application, in Mr. Bigge's Report, of the hypothetical word “seem” to the “object” of *that* order would, at best, have been most improper. While, on the other hand, had they “scrutinized” or even “seen” the true order, the only order noticed in their selection of evidence, it is to be hoped that Mr. Bigge was incapable of lending the most doubtful countenance to the belief that it was *ever* contemplated to “extirpate the whole race;” for such would have been a most untrue statement of the object of that order. And finally, had the Commissioners examined, and still more had they obtained translations or extracts of any order upon the subject, which contradicted the note of Mr. Borchers, the omission of such translations or extracts in their schedule of evidence would have been unpardonable.

But,—let it be granted that *all* you have as yet alleged is well founded, and in particular that “*that very order* for extirpating the Bushmen, which is the subject of (my) inquiries, *was* seen by the Commissioners years after it was copied for” you:—let this be granted, and what then?

You have not denied that that very order, which you are still pleased to describe as an “order for extirpating the Bushmen,” and which you have, after looking back to dates, and making inquiries, from the 6th, or at least from the 11th to the 18th May, announced to be *absolutely* identical with an order alleged by you to have been “seen” by the Commissioners, is also identical in tenor and date, with that published by me! And, if you could and did deny this, your denial would not place you in a better position—for:—

SECONDLY—To come to the main question—no such order as you have described was issued—inasmuch as:—

*Firstly* (with the very important exceptions of the *motives*, the *objects*, and the *tenor* of the order, and of some equally material circumstances, relative to its execution) *all* the details given by you, such as—the numbers of divisions employed—the places where—and the month when they were so employed—the names of the officers—and, as far as your statement goes, the numbers of the killed and prisoners, *accord precisely* with those of the true

order of May 17th, 1774, and with such official entries as have been found of the contents of the reports of the officers employed to execute *that* order.

*Secondly*; because the fullest and clearest proof of that precise agreement may, and shall be seen, not only in the complete and triplicate Records above described, but also in the equally complete "Journal of the Landdrost of Stellenbosch," and in the bound volume of "Letters received" in the year 1774; and because, all the contemporaneous Records concur in furnishing the most indubitable proof, not only that no other order was issued, but that no other order could *possibly* agree with your details.

*Thirdly*,—It may be asked whence you collected these details? and this also you oblige me to answer for you. The only loose *original* paper from which it was possible that you could have collected them is now, or recently was *missing*, not from the Colonial office, but from that of Stellenbosch; as may be seen by the "second supplement" to the preparatory list, furnished by the Clerk of the Peace there, and now in your hands. The missing paper is that transcript of the resolution of 17th May, 1774 in which are embodied, in a dispatch, the order and instructions as published by me, and which, together with the original reports of "Van Wyk," "Marais," and "Van der Merwe," which are still missing from the Colonial office—would *precisely* supply the details above noticed, as being common to the order, &c., as cited by you, and to the sworn copies and translations published by me.

I trust you will be inclined to admit that I have gone far beyond the line of proof which could be fairly required of me; and that it now rests with you, to show that your translations or abstracts have not been made from *this very transcript* of the order of 17th May, 1774, which it is presumed that no one will venture to describe as an order "to extirpate the Bushmen"—"For the extirpation of the whole of the Bushmen"—or "To seize or extirpate the whole race of Bushmen or Hottentots, who had not submitted to servitude."

I shall not recapitulate these proofs; nor do I deem it necessary to point out to you the degree in which they derive support and confirmation from the whole tenor of this correspondence, from the nature and tendency of the "information" you have *given*, and of that which you have *withheld*.

From these proofs—not of what is presumed to *have been* "seen," but—which *may be seen* by any one, you will not fail to remark that, if your "official authorities" be authentic, and your abstract of their contents accurate, the production of your

originals, or translations, may indeed materially affect much of what I have here advanced; but their production will, at the same time, demonstrate—*either*:—

That two expeditions, each consisting of the whole disposable strength of the Colony, in the same numbers of divisions, and both commanded by officers of the same names, were employed at the same time, and in the same places, with precisely the same results—though the primary object of one expedition was to compel a destructive enemy to “make peace,” and that of the other “to extirpate the whole race”—*or*:—

That in the year 1774 the Government of this Colony issued to the commanders of one and the same expedition against the Bushmen, two sets of instructions, of which the tenor was diametrically opposite, and “degraded” such of those commanders as acted in strict accordance with that set of instructions which stands in the Records of the same Government, as the only instructions issued; and which set of instructions now lies open to public inspection, bearing the autograph signatures of all the local authorities of Stellenbosch, by whom they were framed and submitted for the approval of Government, and of all the members of the same Government, by whom they were approved in the manner required by law, and sanctioned by the uniform practice of more than one hundred years.

You will judge whether the *reductio ad absurdum* can conduct you any further than this; and you best know whether any more satisfactory result is to be anticipated from the production of those “official authorities” upon which you have informed the world that you have founded “the revolting details of this disgraceful chapter of Colonial History” and if so—why is it that, after two months inquiry, they are not produced?

As no number of the most respectable endorsements can convert a forged instrument into a true bill—so I trust that I have said enough to satisfy you, that—if your statement in the *Researches* be fundamentally erroneous—the words of the original order must remain unaltered, though the adoption of your error had misled the whole world. While upon the other hand, should it appear that the translations obtained with so much care, are, either—true translations of authentic papers—false translations of authentic papers—or translations, true or false, of spurious papers,—nothing short of *their production*, accompanied by the fullest and most unreserved explanation, can meet the present exigencies of the case.

Nothing short of this can either confirm and justify your statements, or furnish such persons as may have been misled



with an adequate justification, by showing *where* blame has been justly incurred ;—and by fixing it indelibly *there*.

I need not point out to you how deeply it concerns you to show, that when you *insinuated* that an order identical with yours, as contradistinguished from that authenticated by my oath, had been “seen,” you were not fully aware, that your official authority was absolutely identical with mine ; and consequently, that no order “for extirpating the Bushmen” was ever issued.

I spare myself the pain of making any observation upon the “difficulties” mentioned in your letter of the 5th June—upon your refusal to explain the intended meaning of your former letter ;—or upon the inferences which arise from your suggestion that, in *such* a stage of your inquiries, I should proceed with *such* a publication as mine, without awaiting the result of your inquiries after *such* an order as that you have described.

If I have understood you aright, that letter was intended to convey to me the final result of your inquiries.

I prefer endeavouring to place distinctly before you the present state of this matter.

In the 3d page of your 2nd volume, you “request the reflecting Reader to retain in his recollection,” what you then saw cause to designate “the revolting details of this disgraceful chapter of Colonial History,” because, as you there allege, they are “stated on official authority.”

You are now solemnly called upon, by competent authority, to produce those “facts and documents in your own possession” which, in this case, constitute your “official authority.”

Two courses are open to you :—

By adhering to that which you have hitherto pursued, you will be inevitably led to the discovery, that the translations made for your use have disappeared ; and to reply to this, the last reference that may be made to you on the subject, to the effect that you have “already given to Mr. Moodie all the information which it is, *at present*, in your power to communicate,” &c. &c.

How far this may be satisfactory to those whom you desire to satisfy, I know not ; but I would submit to your consideration whether you could possibly take more effectual means of convincing the “*reflecting* reader,” that the errors of the Researches are of that peculiar character which it is equally difficult to defend, to deny, or to confess.

The other course is simple and obvious :—

To admit that which it is impossible to deny—your *sole* responsibility for this Chapter of Colonial History—your *full*

conviction that you were originally misled; and your *entire* satisfaction,—since you have procured access to better sources of information—that *no* order “for the extirpation of the Bushmen” was *ever* issued; no officers “degraded” for “making peace with them in violation of their instructions.”

Such is the explanation which would have justified me for proceeding with my publication, without awaiting the result of your inquiries, or that of this correspondence.

My hopes of still obtaining this explanation are grounded upon the professions which I have already cited from the preface of your work, and on your frequent appeals, in that work, to “the immutable principles of truth and justice.”

These principles seem to demand that evident error should be admitted, and wrong—as far as possible—redressed and atoned for; and I am unwilling to abandon the hope that more solid satisfaction is derivable from this course, than from its opposite; and that it may be deemed more desirable to be enabled to erase from “recollection,” than to impress upon it, those chapters of history, which, in so far as regards those who are the subjects of the history, are only deemed to be disgraceful, while they are believed to be true.

I have been compelled to submit these considerations to your serious notice by what I cannot but view as an attempt to fix a most undeserved stigma upon the character of the work entrusted to me.

It remains for you to decide upon them.

I conclude by expressing a hope, that, in the observations which your letters have called forth, I shall not be deemed to have gone beyond what is due to the position I hold, with relation to the subject of this correspondence; and that the course which you may henceforth pursue in this matter, may be such as is due—to the respectable society you represent in this colony—to the “dignity of truth,”—and—to your own sacred calling.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

D. MOODIE.

The Rev. J. Philip, D.D., &c. &c.

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Cape Town, 6th July 1841.

Sir,

With reference to two letters which I had the honor to address to you on the 7th and 8th ulto., relative to the proposed means of recovering certain documents which appear to have

been abstracted from the public offices, I have now the honor to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that I have ascertained it to be necessary, for the recovery of the said documents,—and also to enable me, as the authorised compiler of the papers of which they form an important part, to comply with those portions of my instructions which direct me to “*avoid the omission of any important document*,” to “*render the collection as complete as possible*,” “*in order that the results may not be dependent upon future researches*,” that reference should be made to the Reverend Dr. Philip, under the circumstances stated in my letter of the 7th ulto., for such detailed information as he may be able and willing to furnish, upon the several points, which, for his guidance, and if possible to obviate the necessity of further reference, or “*future Researches*” upon this subject, I have specified under the following heads:—

1st. Whether he, Dr. Philip, still has—upon consideration of of the detailed information which I have deemed it right to lay before him—reason to believe that any other orders, relative to the Bushmen, were issued in or about the years 1770 or 1774, than those which are contained in the Records which I have compiled, printed, and placed in his hands?

2nd. In the event of an answer in the affirmative—whether Dr. Philip will have the goodness to furnish the Government with such “copies,” “translations,” or “extraets” of such other orders, as he has stated that he had procured for his own use, and as may be still in his possession or within his reach; will he furnish the precise dates of the several papers now in question, or state, for my guidance, any other reason for his continued belief in their authenticity?

3rd. The name of the “gentleman” from whom, as stated in Dr. Philip’s letter of the 11th May, he “borrowed” the papers in question, and to whom he subsequently “returned” them: and the names of those who “translated” and “compared the translations with the originals” before the latter were so “returned”?

4th. The names of the “parties,” whether living or dead, “by whose means,” as stated in Dr. P’s. letter of the 5th June, he “found access” to those papers?

5th. The dates, as nearly as can be ascertained,<sup>g</sup> when these papers were first “lent” to Dr. P., and when they were “returned” by him—N.B. The names of the witnesses, if any, to their re-delivery to the lender, might be important?

6th. The description of the original papers—were they loose, or in bound volumes—and did they seem to bear autograph signatures, and of whom?

7th. Whether, as seems to be implied in Dr. P's. letter of 18th May, copies, translations, or extracts of the papers in question, were by him, "put into the hands of the Commissioners of Inquiry," and by one of them "sent to the Colonial Office in Downing-street?"

8th. Whether Dr. P. has reason to believe, as seems to be implied in his letter of May 18, that an order, stated by him, to have been "seen by the Commissioners of Inquiry," was in any respect different from that of May 17, 1774, as published by me, and now in his hands? and if so, in what did the difference consist?

9th. Any other information which Dr. P. may be able to furnish towards the establishment of the truth upon the most important part of the subject which has long occupied his attention, or towards the recovery of the missing papers, which have not as yet been traced beyond his possession.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

D. MOODIE.

The Hon. J. M. Craig, Esq.,  
Acting Secretary to Government.

Colonial Office, Cape Town, 10th July 1841.

Sir,

With reference to your letters of the 7th and 8th ulto. and 6th inst., relative to certain missing Records, I have the honor, by direction of His Excellency the Governor, <sup>2 Enclosures,</sup> 6th and 9th July, nor, to inclose herewith copy of the correspondence *infra*, which has in consequence passed between Doctor Philip and myself on the subject.

And I am, at the same time, to acquaint you, that having, previously to the receipt of Dr. Philip's letter, been informed that the documents therein alluded to had been returned to Stellenbosch on Tuesday last, I desired the Civil Commissioner (by Friday's Post) to transmit them to this office, whence, on their arrival, they will be forwarded to you.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

J. MOORE CRAIG.

Donald Moodie, Esq., &c. &c.

(Copy.)

Colonial Office, Cape Town, 6th July 1841.

Sir,

I am directed by His Excellency the Governor, to transmit the enclosed copies of letters addressed to me by Mr. Donald Moodie; and to request that you will be so good as to furnish me with any information which you may possess, upon the several points suggested by Mr. Moodie, with a view to the restoration of the documents referred to by that gentleman, to the public Records of the Colony.

Enclosures,  
Mr. Moodie's letters of 7th and 8th June, and 6th July (*supra* p.p. 10, 12, 31.)

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

(Signed),

J. MOORE CRAIG.

The Rev. Dr. Philip.

(Copy.)

Cape Town, 9th July 1841,

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter 6th July, with the inclosures, being copies of letters from Mr. D. Moodie, accompanied with a request from His Excellency to furnish him with any information I may possess upon the several points suggested by Mr. Moodie, with a view to the restoration of the documents referred to by that gentleman, to the public records of the Colony.

For the information of his Excellency, and in compliance with his request, I have to state to you, that about nineteen or twenty years ago, I had some papers relating to the Commandos sent out against the Bushman Hottentots (from 1774 to 1797), from the office at Stellenbosch.

My attention having been called to the papers in question by Mr. D. Moodie, in May last, I inquired of the gentleman whom I remember having requested to return the same if he knew what had become of them. It appears that he had laid them aside, and forgotten them, and after some delay and much searching they were discovered.

On receiving your communication in reference to them, I waited upon that gentleman, to ascertain whether he had done any thing with them, when he informed me that he had transmitted

them to Stellenbosch to be deposited in the Government Office there.

Your most obedient humble Servant,

(Signed), JOHN PHILIP.

J. Moore Craig, Esquire,

Acting Secretary to Government.

Cape Town, July 13, 1841.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst., informing me of the intention of His Excellency the Governor to forward to me upon their arrival, certain documents shortly expected from Stellenbosch; and have in reply, to submit to His Excellency my particular request, that the documents in question may not be forwarded to me, until due care has been taken to establish the identity of the papers so received, with those sent to Stellenbosch, but more particularly with the papers referred to by Dr. Philip—as cited in my letter of the 7th—as having been “lent” to him, and by him “returned to the gentleman from whom he had borrowed them,” after getting them translated and the translations compared with the originals.”

When I state that it has been necessary for *me* to prove to Dr. Philip that it is all but *impossible* that any authentic documents of the nature alleged, and still insisted on, by him;—and cited on the margin of the second paragraph of my letter of the 7th ulto.,—will be found among those papers; or any other “orders of 1774” than a missing transcript of those already published by me, His Excellency will no doubt at once perceive the peculiar impropriety of *my* receiving those papers, except upon an inventory framed to the satisfaction, and if possible, in the presence of Dr. Philip, and of the gentleman from whom he borrowed them, and by whom they now appear to have been sent to Stellenbosch; I have therefore, respectfully to request that a copy of this letter be sent to both the gentlemen alluded to, so soon as the papers arrive from Stellenbosch, and before the packet containing them be opened; together with an intimation of the time at which, if convenient to them, it is proposed to ascertain and identify the contents, previously to their being forwarded to me.

If the contents of the packet are supposed to be such as has been stated by Dr. Philip, that gentleman can want no motive to induce him to satisfy himself and others upon the subject; and it is to be presumed, that the other gentleman will not object to the trouble of remedying, as far as possible, the inconvenience



which has been caused by the prolonged absence of those papers from the public offices.

While I regret the necessity which obliges me to make a further reference upon this subject, I trust His Excellency will perceive that, in my last letter, I did all in my power to obviate that necessity; and I hope that it may be sufficient for me now to state, that the grounds upon which the present application rests, directly concern the satisfactory performance of the duty which has been entrusted to me.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

D. MOODIE.

The Hon. J. Moore Craig, Esq.,

Acting Secretary to Government.

Colonial Office, Cape Town, 12th August 1841.

Sir,

Referring to my letter of the 10th and to yours of the 13th ulto., I am directed by His Excellency the Governor to acquaint you that the documents alluded to in my letter having been sent to this Office by the Civil Commissioner of Stellenbosch, the packet in which they were contained was, immediately on its receipt, securely sealed up, in order that no reference might be had to the contents until their identity with the documents which had been in Dr. Philip's possession was first clearly established.

In furtherance of this object, I, by His Excellency's desire, requested Dr. Philip to examine the documents with a view to his ascertaining whether they were the same as had been given by him (as stated in his letter of the 9th July) to a gentleman for the purpose of being returned to the Office at Stellenbosch; but he has since informed me in a letter of the 5th instant,—extracts from which are enclosed,—that No. 1.—5th Aug. 1841, *infra*. it would be impossible for him to identify all the papers contained in the packet, and I therefore transmit copies of letters from the Civil Commissioner of Stellenbosch, and Nos. 2, 3, and 4. 10 and 19th July and 5th August, *infra*. Mr. P. H. Faure, through whose hands the packet of documents passed after being given over by *infra*.

Dr. Philip to the Rev. A. Faure, who has stated in a letter extract from which is also enclosed, that they were No. 5.—9th July. *infra*. delivered to him many years since by Dr. Philip.

And as His Excellency is of opinion that the evidence of these letters places the identity of the documents beyond all doubt, I

4 Enclosures. am further directed to transmit to you the following papers, being all of those contained in the packet to which your letter of the 7th June last applies; viz.:

1. Copy of "Journal of the Commando under Gerrit van Wyk," from 2d September to 29th October 1774 (contained in 12 pages).
2. Copy of "Report of Field Commandant Nicolaas van der Merwe of an expedition against the Bushmen," which set out on the 16th August and returned on the 7th November 1774 (forming 16 pages).
3. List of "Prisoners divided amongst the party of Zarel Marais," apparently a copy, but without signature. The date of "1st October 1774" is, however, placed at the top of the 2d page (8 pages in the whole).
4. Report made by Adriaan van Jaarsveld to Field Commandant G. R. Opperman, dated 4th September 1775 (16 pages M.S.)

No. 10.\* I also enclose an inventory of the remaining papers found in the same packet,\* all of which appear to relate to the subject of your publication, and of which you will of course avail yourself when required.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

J. MOORE CRAIG.

Donald Moodie, Esq., &c. &c.

No. 10.

\* Inventory of certain papers relative to the Bushmen—appertaining to the Records of the Stellenbosch Division, but now deposited in the Colonial Office.

1. Unsigned report of the year 1775, supposed to be from Field Commandant Opperman (8 pages).
2. Report of Opperman to Landdrost of Stellenbosch, 11th February, 1776, (4 pages.)
3. Copy of Report of Opperman to Landdrost of Stellenbosch, 1st March, 1776 (4 pages).
4. Do. do. do. 3d March, 1776 (4 pages).
5. Do. of certain Burghers to Opperman, 18th March, 1776 (4 pages).
6. Do. of Opperman to Landdrost of Stellenbosch, 17th May, 1776 (4 pages).
7. Report of Opperman to Landdrost, 1st April, 1777, and annexed thereto several papers :
  - a.) Report made to him by D. S. van der Merwe, C. van der Merwe, and A. van Jaarsveld, 15th March, 1777.
  - b.) Representation to him by several Burghers, 17th November, 1776.
  - c.) Report to him by D. S. van der Merwe, 13th March, 1777.
  - d.) Do. to Landdrost of Stellenbosch, apparently the same handwriting as papers bearing Opperman's signature, but unsigned and without date—the whole of No. 7. is comprised in 30 pages.



## No. 1.—(Extracts.)

*Extracts from a Letter of the Rev. Dr. Philip, dated  
Cape Town, 5th August, 1841.*

“ I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter 24th July, noticing the papers relating to the commandos sent out against the Bushmen Hottentots (from 1774 to 1793) mentioned in my letter 9th July, informing me at the same time of a packet of papers, stated by the Rev. A. Faure to have been received by him from me, and sent by that gentleman to Stellenbosch, and subsequently deposited in the Colonial Office, where, in compliance with the request of Mr. D. Moodie, it remains unopened, adding—that it is His Excellency’s wish, should Mr. Faure have been the gentleman alluded to in my letter of the 9th instant, that I would attend at the Colonial Office, to ascertain by examination whether the documents now returned are those given by me to Mr. Faure, and whether I will be pleased to state for His Excellency’s information whether all the papers alluded to in Mr. Moodie’s letter of the 7th instant, are contained in the said packet, and if not, whether I can afford any information likely to lead to the discovery of such as may be still absent.

In reply to the above communication, I have to state for His Excellency’s information, that from the absence of the documents required, from the scattered state of my own papers relating to this subject, and from the length of time that had intervened between the period the documents in question were first brought

8. Report of C. Marais, 3d March to 4th June, 1779 (4 pages).
9. Report of C. van der Merwe to Landdrost of Stellenbosch, 3d September, 1779 (4 pages).
10. Report of H. M. v. d. Berg and A. van Jaarsveld to Landdrost of Stellenbosch, 11th September, 1779 (8 pages.)
11. Report of A. van Jaarsveld to Landdrost of Stellenbosch, 15th November, 1779 (4 pages).
12. Do. of C. van der Merwe, to do., 16th September, 1780 (4 pages).
13. Report of J. A. Louw and A. van Zyl to Landdrost, 23d January, 1783, (4 pages.)
14. Do. of C. Botha to do., 8th September, 1784, to which is attached :
  - a.) List of Cattle stolen in 1785.
  - b.) Report of D. de Villiers to Landdrost, without date.
  - c.) Proposition of C. Grobler to Landdrost, 7th February, 1785,—the whole in 14 pages.
15. Report of W. Burger to Landdrost, 18th May, 1793 (4 pages).
16. Journal of G. Maritz, commencing 20th August, 1793 (4 pages).
17. Declaration and Agreement between do. and Burghers respecting Bushman Children given to them, 2d October, 1793 (4 pages).
18. Letter from J. Nel, to Landdrost, 26th September, 1794, (4 pages).
19. Do. from J. P. Karstens to do., 2d May, 1795 (2 pages).

under my notice, and that in which my correspondence with Mr. Moodie commenced, I found it impossible to answer the queries put to me by that gentleman with the promptitude which he required.

In the course of my present inquiries I have discovered, that the papers shewn to me, from which the statements put forth in my Researches were selected, were partly originals, and partly copies, which till recently I regarded as originals.

So far as my inquiries have hitherto gone I have not been able to find any other order for the extermination of the Bushmen Hottentots in 1774 than that published by Mr. Moodie in his Colonial Records 17th May along with a copy of a letter of the combined Boards of Landdrost and Heemraden and military officers, addressed to the Governor, together with the instructions containing specific regulations for the commando 17th April, and *approved of*, in his letter dated the 17th of May.

Several pages of the series of my papers connected with 1774 are still wanting, but the imperfect series being copies only the missing pages belong to the same class and are not originals.

The statement with regard to the officer whose conduct in making peace with the Bushmen is said to have been highly resented by the Government, and to have been followed by the degradation of the Field Cornets under him, rests for the present on the credit due to the veracity and character of the gentleman from whom I received it. A brief memorandum on the subject in his hand-writing, is all I have been able to recover, and for all the particulars of the case it refers to a paper of which I have not been able to find any copy.

Three Reports of the execution of an order relative to the Bushmen (in the year 1774) by Van Wyk, Marais, and Van der Merwe, and the Journal of Van Jaarsveld 1775 should be found in the unopened packet returned from Stellenbosch.

For the reasons already assigned for not having been able to answer Mr. Moodie's queries so soon as I could have wished, it would be impossible for me to identify all the papers that may be contained in the unopened packet, or to say whether any of those at first brought under my notice are not wanting, having taken no list of them at the time, but I have had the extracts in my hands, transcribed for His Excellency, and of which the following is a list.

List of documents extracted from the Colonial Records.

Journal of the Commando under orders of Gerrick van Wyk.  
Set out Sept. 2d 1774. Returned Oct. 29th 1774.

Report of the Field Commandant Nicholas van der Merwe of his expedition against the Bushmen. Set out Aug. 16th 1774. Returned Nov. 7th 1774.

List of prisoners divided among the party of Zarel Marais Oct. 1st 1774.

A Report from Adriaan van Jaarsveld made to the Commandant Godlieb Roeloff Opperman, containing an account of the thefts of the Bushmen and a subsequent Commando."

\* \* \* \*

"His Excellency will perceive that I have availed myself very largely of the opportunity he has given me to furnish him with every information on this subject at present in my power—and should any thing further bearing upon the subject come in my way it will always be a pleasure to me to make it known to Government."

(Signed) "JOHN PHILIP."

No. 2.—(Copy.)

Civil Commissioner's Office,  
Stellenbosch, 10th July, 1841.

Sir,

In compliance with your letter of the 9th instant, I have the honor to transmit herewith the packet containing certain of the Public Records of my division, which was returned by the Rev. Mr. A. Faure to Stellenbosch by the Postwagon.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) D. VAN RYNEVELD,  
Civil Commissioner.

The Hon. the Acting Secretary  
to Government.

No. 3.—(Copy.)

Civil Commissioner's Office,  
Stellenbosch, July 19, 1841.

Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 16th instant, relative to the packet containing certain of the Public Records of my Division, I have honor to state, for the information of His Excellency the Governor,

1st. The packet, when forwarded to your Office, was in the same state as it had been received by me.

2d. It was sent under a sealed cover to the address of Mr. Pieter Hendrik Faure in the handwriting of his brother, the Rev. Mr. Faure, and was opened by that gentleman, who was

requested by his brother to hand it over to me, which he did on Thursday, the 8th instant.

3d. It was tied with tape, and opened by me in my Office.

4th. No portion of the contents were removed before or after the receipt of your letter, as long as the packet was at my office.

5th. The whole of the documents received by me have been sent to you.

6th. I made no examination of the documents for the purpose of ascertaining their contents, at the time when I untied the tape I handed them over to my Chief Clerk, and desired him to examine and place them at the proper place in the Archives, which he would have done, had I not been desired to return the packet to your Office.

7th. I am not aware by what authority they were removed from the Archives, and by whom, but Mr. P. Faure informed me that his brother had been in possession of these papers since 1822 or 1823, at which period the Secretary to the late Board of Landdrost and Heemraden had charge of the same.

8th. No detailed Lists of the Records in my possession are kept, but the documents are preserved in packets, the general subject to which they refer being entered on a register. I cannot therefore state whether any receipt was given or taken for these documents.

9th. I am aware that some of the Public Records of my division are absent, a list of which was forwarded to Government in my letter of the 24th October 1829. Despatch No. 80.\*

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed)

D. VAN RYNEVELD,  
Civil Commissioner.

The Hon. the Acting Secretary  
to Government.

No. 4.—(Copy.)

Stellenbosch, Aug. 5, 1841.

Honorable Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th July, and to state in reply, with regard to the packet containing some of the public records about which you request information, that I have opened the same, and having seen that the contents were old Field Cornets Reports, I have tied

\* On reference to the Despatch here cited, its contents were found to be irrelevant.

them up with a string, and delivered them *all, none excepted*, to the Civil Commissioner of Stellenbosch.

I have the honor to be,  
Honorable Sir,  
Your most obedient servant,  
(Signed) P. H. FAURE.

The Hon. the Secretary to  
Government, Cape Town.

No. 5.—(Extract.)

*Extract from a letter of the Rev. A. Faure, dated Leeuvenrust,  
9th July, 1841.*

“Many years ago Dr. Philip gave me some papers (Reports of Field Cornets) to return the same to the office at Stellenbosch, which, somehow or other, I entirely forgot. It must have been at the time I removed from town, when those papers were packed in a box along [with ?] some other old papers, and there, being out of sight, they were unfortunately also out of mind, and I was no longer aware that they were still in my possession, till Dr. Philip lately repeatedly calling my attention to the same... when I discovered the identical packet, which I forwarded by the Post waggon last Tuesday to Stellenbosch, requesting that they may be deposited in the office. Being informed that Government is making inquiry about these papers, I beg to acquaint you with this fact, and that my forgetfulness is the sole cause of their not having been returned long since, of which I am sorry, especially if in any measure it should have retarded Mr. Moodie’s progress in the publication of the Records.”

(Signed) “A. FAURE.”

Cape Town, Aug. 9, 1841.

Sir,

With reference to the enclosed copies of a letter addressed by me to the Rev. Dr. Philip on the 6th May last, and of his answer of the 11th, I beg to inform you, that a packet of papers sent by you to Stellenbosch on the 6th ultimo. has been opened in the Colonial Office, when it was found to contain, the document marked 4 in my said letter, and copies of the three papers marked 2, but neither the originals nor copies of those marked 1 and 3.

As a point of much interest in the history of the transactions which form the subject of the papers now publishing, is in some measure dependent upon the opinions which may be elsewhere entertained as to the existence or non-existence of the papers last mentioned,

(Nos. 1 and 3) and as your acquaintance with the general subject, as well as your knowledge of the contents of the said packet, and of the language in which they are written, may enable you to afford me some useful information upon this point, I have the honor to request that you will be pleased to favor me with any information in your power likely to lead to the discovery of any authentic papers which might throw light upon the questions:—

1st, Whether any other orders relative to expeditions against the Bushmen were issued in the year 1774 than those which have been published by me in the Colonial Records:—and

2d, Whether any officers were censured for making peace with any of those tribes contrary to their instructions.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

D. MOODIE.

The Rev. A. Faure, Senior Minister of  
the Reformed Church, Cape Town.

Leeuwens Rust, 16th Aug. 1841.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 14th, I beg to remark in answer to your first query, that I remember having seen some extracts from the records of the Court at Stellenbosch, belonging to a near relative, long since deceased and which I do not possess, and to have met in the same with allusions to an order for the "*Uitroeying der Bosjesmannen*," or some similar expression, but such a length of time has past since I read it, that the dates are entirely obliterated from my memory, so that I cannot with any certainty state whether it was some other order or those of 1774 already published by you in the Colonial Records.

Of that particular act to which you allude in your second query I have no distinct recollection, and am therefore not prepared to give an answer.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient humble Servant,

A. FAURE.

D. Moodie, Esq., &c. &c.

Cape Town, August 28, 1841.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter



of the 16th instant, and my obligations for the information which, in reply to mine of the 14th, you have been pleased to afford me; and which—though not quite so explanatory as I was led to hope—has nearly supplied what little was required to elucidate an important point in a work of which you have been a constant supporter, and in which you have recently expressed so kind an interest.

Some appearance, however, of a misconception of the object of my last letter induces me to beg leave respectfully to explain to you, that that object was, rather to ascertain whether you were aware of the existence of any admissible documentary evidence, calculated to throw light upon the two points specified in my letter of the 14th, than any desire, on my part, to enter into new details; such as are now suggested by your notice of the occurrence of the words "*Uitroeijing der Bosjesmannen*" in the Colonial Records, and by the presumed adaptation of these terms to the object of the order of the 17th May 1774, as published by me in the Record.

You will perceive that this apparent deviation from the subject of my reference is not altogether unworthy of notice, when I inform you that in a correspondence, upon the same subject, which I continued to hold with Dr. Philip, so long as I was permitted to hope for a definite answer, the evident object of *his* most recent communications has been to show, that, if no other order were issued in 1774 than that of May 17, that was an order for "extermination;" while it seems to be advanced, at the same time, as an alternative plea, that in *other* years the words which you have cited are of frequent occurrence:—or in other words, should the first plea fail, and should the order published in the Records not be found to be such as the Reverend Author has described it in his work—such as least it ought to be considered!—a question altogether foreign to the subject of inquiry, and which I am not disposed to contest with Dr. Philip.

That reverend gentleman had stated—erroneously, as it would now appear—that among the papers borrowed from "the gentleman" to whom he had subsequently "returned them," were, an Order of 1774, materially different from that published by me, and a paper which, if authentic, would have furnished a strong proof of the authenticity of the supposed Order: and it occurred to me, from your letter of the 9th July—from your being the lender of the papers—from your knowledge of their contents—the language—and the subject—that if any such papers—authentic or spurious—had ever existed, no one could be better able to furnish the information likely to lead to their discovery than yourself.

But—from whatever cause it may have arisen—the result of my application has not been materially different from that which I could have anticipated from the other evidence in my hands, had I addressed my queries directly to Dr. Philip; and my only reason for now troubling you with this explanation is, that your highly respectable name and character afford a degree of countenance—of which it would be otherwise destitute—to the endeavour now making to attach to the words which you have cited, a signification which—unless I have been much misinformed as to the extent of your information—I cannot conceive it possible you can believe them to bear:—for it might be fairly presumed that *you* have no preconceived theory to which the evidence must be bent; and which, at all hazards, you must strive to support; and that you must be well aware of the intended meaning and application of the words “extirpating the Bushmen,” which occur so frequently in the Records.

The author of the “Researches” has recently favored me with a number of extracts of papers,—*all* of which were previously upon my list, or copied for publication—in which these and similar expressions are emphatically underlined, in a manner well calculated to produce that fallacious “effect” which was formerly the object of his just censure; and I could send him as many more in return; but that I conceive myself better employed in publishing the full contents of his authorities, and all the other evidence I can procure.

In the List of these papers published by me,—and which has been since materially increased—the term “extirpating” is employed *by me*, as frequently in connexion with “Bushmen” as with the offences “murdering” and “robbing” which it was desired to repress; but it must be needless to explain to *you*, that the meaning and application of these terms is very remote indeed from that in which it might be supposed, from your letter, that you concur with Dr. Philip in viewing them.

Perhaps the very strongest of these expressions has been cited, in the Report of Messrs. Cloete and Bird—from an order of an officer of highly vouched humanity, dated 3d July, 1792, in which the terms employed by Mr. Maynier are “extirpate *root and branch*.”

It will hardly be alleged of General Dundas, that *he* was “tired of the slow mode of exterminating the natives by commandos of the boers” (Researches, II. 35.) and yet it is certain that he saw cause officially to inform the Court of Justice (6th Aug. 1799) that he would proceed to “*extirpate the vagrants in person*.”

Still higher authorities concur in the same views:—Mr.—now Sir Thomas Fowell—Buxton, the distinguished Chairman of the late Committee on Aborigines, employed a term of still stronger import, when he asked Captain—now Sir Andries—Stoekenstrom (Evidence 1384, p. 152) “Were you not equally *zealous in exterminating hordes of Caffers and other banditti, who might infest the colony, and the borders?*” and the answer was:—

“*Most decidedly, it was the basis on which I acted, that all parties should be protected, and that for the sake of the peaceable natives themselves, these hordes of robbers and murderers should be crushed.*”

I need not tell a distinguished scholar that the *extirpation* of such criminals has in all ages conferred celebrity on many who now, by *general* consent, “occupy a chief seat among the friends and benefactors of the human race.”

The Reverend Author of the Researches—on *this* point a good witness, and a high authority—when addressing Acting Governor Wade (Oct. 10, 1833, *Appendix to Report*, p. 151) made it a matter of positive as well as comparative merit, in the “good men” at Philippolis, that “English soldiers can never traverse such a country, to destroy banditti, as these people can do.” “Waterboer’s assistance in rooting out such nests of murderers might be most *efficient.*”

As a moralist you will be able to say, whether the merit of these principles and orders is to be estimated from the motive and object, or from the result.

To say nothing of the unquestionable motives, or of the results, upon the interests of humanity, of the measures of General Dundas, Captain Stoekenstrom, and Mr. Buxton:—the measures of the Dutch Government in 1774—of Mr. Maynier—and of Dr. Philip, were directed against the alleged perpetrators, few or many, of the specific offences—“murder and robbery.”

The result of the order of 1774—the most powerful effort ever made to bring the alleged offenders “to reason by force,” was the destruction, by the three divisions of the expedition, in about two months, of 503, and the capture of 241, chiefly children.

The result of the order of Mr. Maynier was, as stated by himself, “fully 300 Hottentots great and small were shot” in one day, “and 15 children taken:”—and in announcing that result, Mr. Maynier further announced, that he had “judged it proper” that “Couragie and the mischievous gang” who had escaped that slaughter—the greatest on record—should also “be followed up and rooted out,” and he, with 178 more, was rooted out accordingly in the following November by J. P. van der Walt, as may be

seen—with the omission of *the grounds* of the expedition—in Philip's Researches (I. 51).

Dr. Philip's suggestion of 1833 was not attended by any immediate result; for the work had been already done:—but the results of his "invitation" in 1825 of the "good" destroyers of banditti, previously somewhat unfavorably distinguished as "Bergenaars" to Philippolis—into the Bushman country, were—such, that the Reverend Author might well avoid all mention of his "invitation" in his published works and in his evidence—the result was, as stated by Dr. Philip "a line of conduct injurious to the interests" of the Bushmen—as stated by Capt. Stockenstrom "a regular war of *extermination* against the Bushmen, &c." "In a short time not a single Bushman remained at the institution of Philippolis, established expressly for them, or any where near. Upon the slightest provocation they were shot like wild beasts, and of the lands and the springs they were dispossessed with much more violence, and much less ceremony than the Boers had dared to do in the worst of times. This is what Dr. Philip calls 'the Griquas own country'!"\*

But notwithstanding these lamentable and fearful results, it does not appear to be a fair or a legitimate inference, that any of the high authorities who employed these expressions—and who were all Philanthropists of the first order of political magnitude—ever contemplated the commission of such an outrage against the laws of humanity, as would have been committed by the Dutch Government in 1774, had there existed, any where—except in Dr. Philip's "missing pages"—an order that a *whole race* of natives should be "seized or extirpated;" any where—except in his "brief memorandum,"—proof that that Government degraded such of their officers as violated these sanguinary orders, by making peace.

And if no such unfavorable inference can be drawn from the words of Dundas—Maynier—Buxton—Stockenstrom—and Philip; nor from the actual results of the measures which obtained *their* sanction—it is not very easy to perceive upon what principle of justice the conduct of the Dutch Government is to be measured by similar detached expressions, followed by similar, and sometimes by inferior results.

To every Philanthropist in the true sense, and not in the mere political acceptance of the term, and more especially to you Sir, as a philanthropic Dutch Colonist, by the hand of whose progenitor the instructions of 1774 appear to have been written, it must be a matter of high, if not of unmixed gratification, to be

\* Vide *Researches*, II. 91—6. *Evidence*, pp. 608—639. *Appendix to Report*, p. 150. *Shaw's Defence*, &c., 73, 79. *Moodie's Results*, &c., pp. 30, 43 to 47.

enabled to satisfy yourself, that the object and tenor of these instructions is very different indeed from that which has been alleged, and is still persisted in by Dr. Philip; and which has been, in the Report of a Parliamentary Committee, *assumed*.

It is also to be hoped that there is not more than one man now living who cannot share your satisfaction when informed, that when the *true* words of all such orders are seen, in their due connection with the true and *complete* contents, of even that portion of the documents, furnishing either a ground or a pretext for issuing them, which, with your assistance, may be preserved from further literary depredation—none will be found for the extirpation of a *race*, and few, if any—whatever difference of opinion there may be, when the means of forming a sound judgment are laid open, as to the Policy of the Government in issuing them, the Judgment of the Magistrate in applying them—or the Discretion of the Commander in carrying them into execution—which might not have been grounded on the highly sanctioned “*basis*” which has been noticed.

The object, however, of my application to you was, rather that I might be enabled to furnish *others* with the best means of forming, for themselves, sound opinions upon such matters, than to obtain a temporary assent to impressions, worth nothing unless they are always ready to yield to the force of new evidence.

I am, however, persuaded that the “plan” alleged to have been “devised” in 1816 “to employ the Cape Regiment, and the British soldiers then on the frontier in the work of death,” (*Researches* II. 35) will be found, upon the publication of the evidence upon which *that* allegation is specifically founded; to share the fate of the order of 1774;—and of the “authorised” “project” of 1770, “to enslave or exterminate all that remained of the original inhabitants”—a statement as directly contradicted by the published evidence as the other, and which it has not as yet been attempted to support by the shadow of a proof, or even by the faintest echo of a “recollection.”

With a fair share of error and of fault, on the part of the Government, the Local Functionaries, and the Colonists, I believe that it requires nothing more than the full publication of the proofs upon which these, and many similar statements of public and general delinquency have been founded, to satisfy the world, that “the system which rendered the Dutch name so infamous” and the allegation that “many of the English settlers went beyond the Dutch in the worst part of their [*alleged*] conduct” (*Ib.* I. 270) are equally unsubstantial, and equally deserving of reprobation.

The establishment of these facts may not be witnessed with



unmixed satisfaction by all;—but it is necessary to my present purpose—in taking the liberty of addressing these observations to the senior member of the Colonial Church—namely, of effecting, if possible, the full development of *the truth* upon such matters, that I should avail myself of this opportunity to state, that the papers which you have fortunately preserved, in that “identical packet” have furnished the best and most undeniable means of establishing them.

You will probably perceive that these are not hasty or unconsidered expressions of opinion, liable to bias from circumstances of a temporary, a local, or a personal character, but deliberate statements of facts, capable of the simplest proof, or disproof.

Many of the proofs have been published for many months, and are still uncontested:—many more are in my hands, and will daily come to light in each successive number of the Records—now that the recovery of these papers has rendered both Records and proofs more complete than they have hitherto been.

With regard to the more immediate object of the reference I took the liberty of making to you, *that* object has been nearly attained; and it is unlikely that any *new* inference will be drawn, or any accession of admissible evidence gained, from the circumstance of your remembering, in the extracts to which you allude, words which frequently occur in the authentic Records.

It is a much more material circumstance, that the non-existence of any such papers as those which formed the subject of my reference, is a fact for which the true history of the Colony is, in a great measure, indebted to you.

The supposed papers were formerly *more* than supposed to have been among those lent to Dr. Philip by you, and returned by him to you. (\*)

According to the concurrent testimony of the borrower and the lender, they have now “disappeared.” (†)

As I proved beforehand, apparently to the satisfaction of Dr. Philip, they were not found among the contents of the “identical” and “identified” packet—they had even disappeared from among its expected contents, while still “unopened,” (‡) and by a most remarkable coincidence, and in literal compliance with rules for such cases made and provided by me, and prescribed in my letter of the 6th July, (‡) their translations, or at least “several pages” of the “papers” of that reverend gentleman, “connected with 1774,” are duly reported, “missing.” (§)

It does not appear, therefore, that any thing more remains to be done towards the recovery of *the supposititious* documents; for

(\*) *Vide supra* p. 5. (†) p.p. 38. 42. (‡) p. 29. (§) p. 38.



after three months of "Inquiry"—but still before inquiring in *the proper place*, and consulting the complete original Records—Dr. Philip has, at length, been pleased to state that "as far as his inquiries have hitherto gone, he has not been able to find any other order for the extermination of the Bushmen in 1774, than that published by Mr. Moodie." (\*)

The remaining "official authority" for the material confirmatory fact of the degradation of the officers who made peace "in violation of their [supposed] instructions" which has been long receding from the view, appears at length to have evaporated into anonymous "memoranda" and indistinct "recollections."

And, therefore, while I beg leave to express to you my best thanks for the information which has so materially assisted in establishing these facts, and to state that I shall always be most thankful for any information, from any quarter, that may lead to any *substantial* accession to the contents of my work, it does not appear to me, that—as far as Dr. Philip, and his "official authorities," are concerned—it would tend to any useful purpose to attempt to penetrate deeper into an obscurity so palpable to observation, or to give any further trouble to that reverend gentleman.

But—although I deem it unnecessary to make any further reference in *that* quarter, or elsewhere upon the subject of those *pretended* authorities—it is both necessary and just that I should respectfully apprise you—with a view to the restoration of *authentic* papers still missing—that:—

There is every reason to believe that the true order and instructions of May 17, 1774, and a paper dated 13th June 1775, relative to a complaint against Field-Commandant Nieolaas van der Merwe, for having acted contrary to *those* instructions, which were evidently Dr. Philip's only authorities, and the former of which has been long missed *from Stellenbosch*, were, as stated by him, among the papers he procured from that place, and which he returned to you. (†)

His statement is confirmed by numerous collateral circumstances, but in particular by the discovery in the packet, when recently opened, of *all* the papers stated by him to have been returned at the same time, with exception of these, which, if found *there*, would have supplied his *alleged*, as well as his real authorities, and added involuntary admission to abundant proof.

It must be unnecessary to trouble you with a detail of the circumstances (§) which seem to render it certain, that during whatever interval of time there may have elapsed, between your recent discovery of the packet, and its transmission to Stellen-

(\*) *Vide supra* p. 38. (†) p.p. 5.37. (§) *Infra* p. 58.

boseh on the 6th July, it passed into other hands, so as to render it doubtful whether you are enabled to state that, when so transmitted, it contained all the papers originally procured from Stellenbosch by Dr. Philip, as he states through you:—for the *subsequent* identity of these papers has, in the opinion of His Excellency the Governor, been placed “beyond all doubt.”

Under these circumstances—the proofs of which shall be produced when required—and with reference to your communication of the 9th July—I trust you will perceive the justice and propriety of my furnishing you with an opportunity of stating—whether you are aware that the papers above specified were or were not among the former contents of the packet—the length of the interval between the discovery of the packet and its transmission, and—how it was disposed of during that interval.

When I state that correct information upon these three points will remove all doubt from this portion of the History of the Colony, and that there is no other quarter from which such information can be obtained, I need add no more to induce you to furnish it.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

D. MOODIE.

Rev. A. Faure, &c. &c.

Leenwens Rust, 2d September 1841.

Sir,

I yesterday received your letter of the 28th. Refraining myself from any comment on your remarks and inferences regarding me, I beg, in reference to the papers alluded to by you and said to be missing from Stellenbosch, to state that I can give you no information regarding them, having no recollection of the same. The interval of my discovering the packet and transmitting it to Stellenbosch was upwards of three weeks—meanwhile Dr. Philip, whom I had acquainted with the fact of its being found, had the perusal of the same, which he returned three days before I transmitted it to Stellenbosch to be delivered to Mr. Van Ryneveld.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient humble Servant,

A. FAURE.

D. Moodie, Esq., &c. &c.

ERRATUM—In the date of Mr. M's. first letter to Mr. Faure, p. 41, for 9th, read 14th August.

Cape Town, Sept. 4, 1841.

Sir,

In acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 2d inst., I request leave most respectfully to explain to you, that I have been much misunderstood should you have conceived that my "remarks and inferences" were intended to apply to you *personally*, or had regard to any thing whatever beyond what I deemed an erroneous line of argument, unworthy of serious notice, until it derived an appearance of countenance from the tenor of your letter.

I deemed it right to meet *those arguments*, as soon as you seemed to have espoused them, and in addressing you I was influenced by the striking examples before me, of other gentlemen, also personally unknown to me, but whom I cannot but regard with the most entire respect, whose confidence in others seems to have induced them to lend the sanction of their names to statements, of which it is to be hoped that the *tendency* was unperceived, and which, when perceived, it would seem that no one is prepared to defend. I allude to Sir T. F. Buxton, and Mr. H. E. Rutherford; and though I do not by any means intend to apply to your letters the inferences to which the Report of the Aborigines Committee, and the letter of the 9th April last appear to me to be liable;(\*) I have no doubt that, when you see the whole of my recent correspondence with Dr. Philip, you will be disposed to concede to me that—should I have erred in presuming to view the statements and sentiments contained in your letters as calculated to produce an impression that the writer was unconsciously involving himself with the complex movements of others, and that he also might find cause of regret in his own benevolent complacency—such at least was not the most unfavorable inference which might have been founded upon a close comparison of the four letters of the 9th July, and 5th and 16th August.(†)

I believe that the time is not distant when you will join me in perceiving no cause to regret the means which have drawn forth the important information with which you have now favoured me; and I beg to assure you that it will be a source of sincere and lasting concern to me, should you not *then* deem my present explanation equally satisfactory.

The propriety of allowing Dr. Philip access to his own authorities was so obvious, that, before I was aware that they had already been for some weeks in his hands, such was my own suggestion;(§) and that you should afford him an opportunity of

(\*) *Vide* Appendix A. (†) p.p. 33.41.38.42. (§) p. 34.

*perusing* them was so just and necessary, that nothing but the attendant circumstances can account for his studious concealment(\*) of a material fact, which it is to be feared has broken the chain of identity, and rendered it unlikely that—unless in the improbable event of a tardy admission of error—any one, possessed of the means, will lend his assistance to identify Dr. Philip's *alleged* authorities with those which he cannot deny are the only authorities which ever existed in reality.

I am led to infer from your last letter that should you, at any period, have received or taken a list of the papers, or otherwise acquired such a knowledge of the contents of the packet as would enable you to state, whether *all* the papers originally lent by you to Dr. Philip, were or were not sent to Stellenbosch on the 6th July, you would not have failed to say so; and I shall therefore conclude, by repeating my thanks for the important information with which you have favored me, and my unfeigned regret, should any part of my communications have caused the most momentary uneasiness to a gentleman of your sacred profession, for whom I have every reason to entertain the most sincere respect.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

D. MOODIE.

The Rev. A. Faure, &c. &c.

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Cape Town, July 30, 1841.

Sir,

The enclosed copy of a letter addressed by me to the Rev. Dr. Philip, on the 6th of May last, and of his answer of the 11th, will explain to you the capacity in which I take the liberty of addressing you; and in some measure the object of this application, *i. e.*, the recovery or identification of the papers specified in my said letter.

My hopes of obtaining from you some information upon this subject rest, partly upon the interest you are understood to feel in such questions; and partly upon the circumstance of your having been employed by the Commissioners of Inquiry, in the capacity of Translator; Dr. Philip having subsequently informed me, that the order "for the extirpating of the Bushmen" was seen by the Commissioners after it had been copied for him.

I trust you will readily perceive that I am not presuming to apply to you for any information which it would be improper in you to communicate, when I request you to do me the favor to

(\*) *Vide* p.p 6.11.33.37-8.62.

state, whether you remember having translated that order, or any of the other papers now missing.

A circumstance has been mentioned to me, which, if correctly stated, may serve to assist your recollection; namely, that Dr. Philip recommended you to the Commissioners as Translator, and that your translation of the said Order of 1774 was then submitted to them, as a proof of your competency. Should this have been the case, you will probably be able to inform me, whether the original paper was in the form of a resolution or a dispatch—whether it was a separate paper, or in a volume—from whom you received it for translation, and, if returned by you, to whom it was returned—whether you may happen still to possess any translation or note of its contents, or other means of stating its general substance, or its exact date.

Any information upon the subject, with which you may be pleased to favor me, will be thankfully acknowledged, more particularly should it ultimately tend to give increased completeness to the compilation on which I am engaged; and as the work has been for some time suspended in the expectation of finding those papers, I trust that you may be able to favor me with a reply, (under cover to the Secretary to Government), by return of post.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

D. MOODIE.

To the Baron von Buchenroder, Uitenhage.

PS.—I shall forward to Mr. Chase 4 numbers of the Record, containing, in Dutch and English, all the evidence I have yet found for the period 1770-74, which I trust you will do me the favor to accept.

D. M.

Perseverance near Uitenhage, 13th August 1841.

Sir,

Your letter dated 30th July I received on Saturday, and was thus not able to avail myself of last week's post for my reply.

Regarding the "order for the extirpation of the Bushmen," I have no distinct recollection; but the impression on my mind has been, that an order, or orders, to that effect have been given, and that I have seen and read something about it, but what? when? or where? I cannot bring to my recollection.

About the official Reports by Van Wyk &c., I have no recollection at all, and believe that I have never seen them.

With regard to "any proof that the conduct of the person last named in concluding a peace with the Bushmen was highly

resented by Government," etc., I beg to state that I have no recollection about the names in question, while I must also say, that there is the impression on my mind, that Fieldeornets and other inhabitants have incurred displeasure from higher quarters for having made peace with Bushmen.

Of the Journal of Van Jaarsveld I have not the least recollection, and think that I never saw it.

To the query about the form of the papers in question, (as I recollect nothing of them) I can give no answer, but it may not be irrelevant to state that I have never seen any such volume as will come within your meaning, with the single exception, that when the late Mr. Tresdoux was employed in copying some volumes of Resolutions, I took the opportunity to have a peep; but it so happened that I found nothing either of interest, or that has any relation to the subject of your communication. And I may further say, that I have no reason to suspect any body of having abstracted or kept original documents.

I stated before that I was under the impression that orders for the extirpation of the Bushmen had been given, and beg to say, that accordingly, if that topic had been started in conversation, I would have been led to say, "that such was the case," and I need hardly add, that of course I feel much interest about the forthcoming of such an order.

My interest in the unfortunate Bushmen race was excited as early as 1808, while on a journey with the late Mr. J. G. van Reenen to his Estate at the Hantam, chiefly by the conversation of Mr. v. R. who gave me an account of the origin of the hostilities with the Bushmen in that quarter, and exculpated them on many points, while he blamed the measures of Government. Of this I took notes, which now by searching among my papers fell into my hand. I afterwards obtained a good deal of (chiefly verbal) information from functionaries, especially the late Mr. Maynier, from Missionaries, Boers, and Hottentôts, to which I added what different travellers have said, and on these data I had to form my opinion, as I had no access to any other; and I must say, that if it should prove an error that at one period the Bushmen were to be extirpated, that error has been shared in by many.\*.....

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

W. L. VON BUCHENRODER.

D. Moodie, Esq., Cape Town.

Among my papers I have not as yet been able to find any



thing that will throw any light on the subjects of your communication. Should I find any thing I will not fail to forward it to you immediately.

W. L. v. B.

\* *The remaining portion of Baron von B.'s letter has no direct reference to the immediate subject; it is however subjoined together with the reply.*

"When your letter reached me, the Record to the year 1687, and the first part of the Journal of Col Collins, were on my table, and I take this opportunity to say, that I have perused the Record with much interest and satisfaction. As in the last numbers the Hottentot Chief Klaas is introduced, and I suppose him to be the same about whom Kolbe has the touching episode, I feel much impatience to see the data referring to it, in the Record.

I had a folio volume (which I gave to Mr. S. Bannister, who took it to England,) containing copies of the Journal of Colonel Collins, his Report, Supplement to the Report, and notes of an interview with the Caffer Chief Slaubie. In the Report Mr. Maynier is frequently mentioned, and I communicated it to that gentleman, who made remarks and strictures on it, some of which I find among my papers. I am not sure whether they come within your line, but as in the strictures Col. Collins is accused of error in the statement of facts, and an appeal made to a document to which you will find access "the Defence of Mr. Maynier," they may probably serve to come to the truth.

I have also many original letters from General Dundas, and Sir George Young, as well as other papers, of which, if you wish it, I shall form a list, and shall find myself most happy to contribute my mite to elicit the Truth.

For your kindness to forward for me the 4 numbers of the Record I beg you to accept my best thanks."

Cape Town, September 4, 1841.

Sir,

I beg to express my best thanks for the manner in which you have met my inquiries:—Until I had access to the means of obtaining correct information, my own "impressions" on the subject of the proposed extermination of the Bushman race, were the same as yours, and were probably derived from the same sources.

All the notes you mention, and which you so kindly offer to communicate to me, will, I beg to assure you, be not only interesting, but of great use in eliciting the truth upon many points of importance; some of which I shall state:—

The late Mr. J. van Rencen's kindly feelings towards the natives are honorably evidenced by official documents. His account of the origin of hostilities with the Hantam Bushmen might furnish matter for useful notes: and it is probable that some of the information you have collected about that singular race, embraces the subjects of their *original condition*, and their *migrations*.

All the evidence hitherto procured seems to show that from 1652 to 1690 they were a distinct people from the pastoral Hottentots: and it is remarkable that the migration of the Hahabee Kafirs to the Eastward of the Kie and Somo—of which nothing seems to have been known in the Colony at the time—was followed by the appearance of great numbers of Bushmen in parts of the Colony, where it was stated that they had never been seen before. I anticipate from your notes, and from discussion of the subject, some useful information upon the causes of those occasional irruptions of this race which were so fatal to the pastoral Hottentots, and at length to themselves.

I have not found the Defence of the late Mr. Maynier; but only some portions of it, which were introduced in a civil action instituted against him in 1804; and—for political reasons—stopped by the Executive Government.

This gentleman was for many years the chief referee of Government, for information regarding the natives: and the popular opinion [*i.e.* elsewhere] was for many years directed by him. He had been twice expelled from the frontier magistracy by popular violence; upon grounds never publicly known except through himself; and in his declining years he appears to have remembered little beyond his resentment against those who expelled him; while a similar feeling on the part of the frontier farmers has, probably, led them to do equal injustice to his memory.

By the recovery of the papers relative to his first magistracy, the grounds of most of those expeditions against the natives, which he subsequently imagined that the Colonists had undertaken on their own responsibility, and for

Cape Town, Aug. 17, 1841.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th inst., and now beg to return the four recovered documents then sent me—my translations of which are now printing:—and, with reference to a notification contained in Dr. Philip's letter of the 5th inst., extracts of which have been furnished me, from which it appears that he has had "the extracts in his hands" of some *other* relevant papers besides those embraced in my application, "transcribed for His Excellency," I beg to state that *all* such extracts would be very useful to me, as tending to secure the completeness of the published Records; and I therefore trust that His Excellency may be pleased to obtain, and to communicate to me, for the purpose stated, all such extracts as Dr. Philip may have had transcribed for His Excellency.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

D. MOODIE.

Hon. J. Moore Craig, Esq. Acting Secretary to Govt.

their own advantage, are found stated in his own words, and enforced by his own authority; and from the nature of much of the official evidence of the period, it would be highly desirable that none of his explanatory statements should be lost. I was sorry to learn, upon application to his relatives, that many of his posthumous papers had been accidentally destroyed; and need not say, how much that circumstance increases the value of his strictures upon Collins, and of his information concerning the Bushmen.

As to the "episode of Captain Klaas," it is singular enough, that the absence of the Journals, which probably contain the grounds, or the pretexts, for the harsh treatment of this "old and faithful ally of the Company" should have been the chief reason which induced me to suspend the publication of the early papers at the date of 1690. Kolbe,—whose accounts have been very unjustly regarded as "fabulous"—was strongly biassed by his personal feelings towards both the Governors Van der Stell; but the severity of the censure contained in the dispatches from Holland might lead to conclusions more erroneous than Kolbe's, unless the explanations contained in the daily entries of the Journals were published at the same time.

Klaas' real offence appears to have been selling his cattle to the Colonists for higher prices than the representatives of the Company chose to pay for them; and if the publication of these papers should be continued—of which I should have little doubt if a few more shared your interest in the subject—I propose to make application in Holland and in Batavia for extracts of all those portions of the missing Journals which relate to the natives.

All our recent experience has shown the futility of the attempt to frame a sound theory out of detached papers, which are only intelligible as links of evidence; and I am confident that many of those now missing, might be supplied in the Colony, *if those in possession of old M.S.S. volumes, were as well inclined as yourself to render them available to the object of printing the Records.*

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

D. MOODIE.

The Baron von Buchenroder, Uitenhage.

Colonial Office, Cape Town, 19th Aug. 1841.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 17th instant, I am directed by the Governor to acquaint you that Dr. Philip has placed in my hands the extraets referred to in his letter of the 5th instant, which I have now the honor to transmit for your information.

Dr. Philip has likewise submitted to me for your inspection a number of documents, being copies from the original M. S. S. in the Colonial Office, together with an inventory of the same,\* to which the Reverend Gentleman attaches some importance, and I have therefore to request that they may be returned to me in order to their being again restored to him.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

J. MOORE CRAIG.

Donald Moodie, Esq.

Cape Town, Sept. 8, 1841.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th August, enclosing, for my information, the "extraets" referred to in Dr. Philip's letter of the 5th, and applied for in mine of the 17th of the same month. These extraets seem to be chiefly made from the papers recently restored; but as they refer in general to Reports addressed to the Government, which

\* *List of Documents copied from the original Dutch MSS. in the Colonial Office.*

1. Letter from His Excellency the Governor and Legislative Assembly, to the Landdrost M. A. Berg, dated June 16, 1777, with resolutions thereon.
2. Letter from His Excellency the Governor and Legislative Assembly, to the Landdrost of Stellenbosch, dated March 25, 1779, with resolutions thereon.
3. Account of Proceedings in the Council of War at Stellenbosch, dated March 9, 1779.
4. Account of Proceedings in the Council of War at Stellenbosch, dated May 11, 1779,—containing also further proceedings of Sept. 7, 1779, and Dec. 7, 1779.
5. Report of Field-Commandant Van der Walt, dated Nov. 23, 1792,—also Resolutions of the Council of War, June 4, 1793.
6. Proceedings in the Council of War, July 10, 1781,—and also July 6, 1784.
7. Letter from Commandant Willem Burger, dated Nov. 25, 1793,—also Proceedings of the Council of War, June 2, 1795.

are consequently detached, and more liable to removal and loss than the regularly entered Orders—they may prove of use in securing the completeness of the published Records, and I shall therefore, while permitted, retain them for my guidance in printing the papers of the periods to which they refer.

The “copies” referred to in the last paragraph of your said letter, are extracts from the Stellenbosch Records, probably from the copy in the Colonial Office, agreeing in date, and apparently in tenor, with regularly entered papers, chiefly orders of the Government, which I had previously prepared for publication; they are therefore herewith returned for the purpose of being restored to Dr. Philip, as desired.

10 Enclosures.

Among the recently transcribed extracts I found translations, which Dr. Philip had taken the trouble of preparing, from the four reports transmitted to me with your letter of the 12th August, and of which my own translations were already in the hands of the printer.

As these four translations appeared to be recently executed, and not to be transcripts (being, in one instance, recently certified by the same sworn translator who had either translated or transcribed all the accompanying extracts; while the date of the manufacture of the paper (1838) proved that they were not the translations stated by Dr. Philip to have been obtained by him many years ago), I was led to the conclusion that the chain of identity of the recovered papers was not so perfect as, from the evidence communicated to me on the 12th of August, His Excellency was induced to suppose; but that it was, on the contrary, defective in its most important link,—that which appeared, by the concurrent testimony of Dr. Philip and the Rev. Mr. Faure, to be the most firmly secured. (\*) I therefore applied to the gentleman last named for information regarding “the length of the interval between the discovery of the packet and its transmission, and how it was disposed of during that interval,” and was informed by him on the 2d inst., that that interval was “upwards of three weeks,” during which “Dr. Philip had the perusal of the same, which he returned three days before it was transmitted.” (†)

This circumstance at once solves and removes all those “difficulties”—arising from “the *absence* of the documents required” “the length of time that had intervened” and “the very slight

8. Proceedings of the Council of War, dated April 19, 1785.

9. Letter to the Council of War at Graaff-Reinet from several Burghers, dated April 23, 1787,—also Proceedings of the Council of War, June 7, 1787.

10. Proceedings of the Council of War, dated Sept. 6, 1791,—also June 7, 1791.

(\*) *Vide* p.p. 33.41. (†) p. 50.

attention paid to them (by Dr. Philip) "at the time when they were *first* brought under his notice," and *first* "translated and compared"—which on the 5th June, and 5th August, rendered it "impossible for (him)" to meet the queries submitted to him; to "identify all the papers that may be contained in the unopened packet; or to say whether any of those *first* brought under (his) notice, are not wanting;"(\*) and, therefore,—though I would have willingly avoided giving any further trouble to Dr. Philip,—the circumstances which have been stated render it proper that I should respectfully suggest, that another reference be made to that reverend gentleman, with a view to the restoration of very important documents, the property of Government, which, according to his statement of the 5th August, would appear to have been then in his hands, and which, according to his former statements, were among the papers originally procured from Stellenbosch, whence, as stated in my letter of the 13th July, they have been long missed.

I allude to the papers thus described in Dr. Philip's letter of the 5th August, "an order for the extermination of the Bushmen Hottentots in 1774," "along with a copy of a letter of the Combined Boards of Landdrost and Heemraden and Military Officers, addressed to the Governor, together with the instructions containing specific regulations for the Commando, 17th April, and *approved* of in his letter dated the 17th May."

It is true that Dr. Philip states that the papers which he has found, are "published by Mr. Moodie, in his Colonial Records," a circumstance which, if correctly stated, would not affect the right of the Government to these original papers:—but which statement is somewhat incorrect; inasmuch as the approved Instructions published in my Colonial Records, do not agree in date, and still less in tenor, with those described by Dr. Philip, and of which he states, that the "copies," and "*not* the originals" are missing.(†)

The same observations—with exception of the paper having been actually missed—apply to the only remaining authority, of which Dr. Philip states that he has been unable to *recover* or "to find any *copy*"(†)—I allude to "the statement with regard to the officer whose conduct in making peace with the Bushmen, is said to have been highly resented by the Government."

The Stellenbosch Records refer in one instance, and in one only, to proceedings against one of the officers in question, for acting "in violation of his instructions" during the Commando of 1774—that officer being the same person (Nicolaas van der Merwe) referred to by Dr. Philip.

(\*) *Vide* p.p. 11.37. (†) p. 38.



Should the reverend gentleman's search for the original of this paper, in the place where he has stated that it should be found, have been equally unsuccessful with his endeavors to recover a copy, he will be able to say whether the "memorandum"(\*) in his hands "refers to" any other "paper" than that which I now beg to annex for his inspection, from page 41 of the Records of 1775; on the other hand I need not do more than suggest that all original Records which may have been found, have not ceased to be the property of Government.

It is not denied, and I believe it to be undeniable, that Dr. Philip's account of the transactions of 1774 is founded, at best, upon an entire misapprehension of the tenor of these papers; but I beg to explain that the importance of recovering them is chiefly created by the circumstance of Dr. Philip having hitherto declined to answer the queries submitted to him by Government on the 6th July, in particular those numbered 1, 2, and 8;(+ ) while—by continuing to imply, in his letter of the 5th August, that original papers, which would, if found, have supported his statements, have disappeared from the packet where they should have been found—he reduces me to the necessity of suggesting, that the facilities for his inquiries which he now appears to have recently enjoyed, *must* enable him to state, whether he recently returned to Mr. Faure, all the papers which he had originally procured from Stellenbosch, and if so, whence he procured, and, if "returned"(†) by him, to whom he returned the papers which are the subject of this reference.

I beg to state that I regard the recovery of these papers as so essential to the objects contemplated by His Excellency, in prescribing rules to secure the completeness of my work, that I should be prepared respectfully to suggest—should the reply of Dr. Philip render that course necessary—that reference be had to the Rev. Mr. Faure, upon this last point, as well as for a full detail of the means by which the papers recently recovered originally came into his hands.

Dr. Philip has, however, expressed his readiness to furnish any further information that may be in his power;(§) and it is more than probable that—with reference to his former letters, and to the circumstances which have recently come to light(||)—the reverend gentleman may now feel, that that full elucidation of this matter, which should be satisfactory to others, has now become due to himself.

With a view therefore to the recovery of the papers still missing, I have the honor to request, that His Excellency the Governor may be pleased to direct, that Dr. Philip be furnished with a copy of this letter, in order that he may be thus enabled to afford

(\*) *Vide* p. 38 (+) p. 31 (†) p. 5. (§) p. 39. (||) p. 50.



such further information upon its subject as he may be desirous to communicate.

I have the honor to be,  
 Sir,  
 Your most obedient humble Servant,  
 D. MOODIE.

The Hon. J. M. Craig, Esq.,  
 Acting Sec. to Government.

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Colonial Office, Cape Town, 18th Sept. 1841.

Sir,

In conformity with your request a copy of your communication to me of the 8th inst. was transmitted to the Rev. Dr. Philip; and I am directed by His Excellency the Governor, to Enclosures 9th and enclose copies of my letter to Dr. Philip of the 15th Sept. *infra*. 9th, together with his reply of the 15th instant, and to acquaint you that whenever he shall communicate any further information on the subject referred to in this correspondence, the same will be communicated to you.

I am, Sir,  
 Your most obedient humble Servant,  
 J. MOORE CRAIG.

Donald Moodie, Esq., &c. &c.

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(Copy.)

Colonial Office, Cape Town, 9th Sept. 1841.

Sir,

I am directed by His Excellency the Governor to transmit the enclosed copy of a letter addressed to me by Mr. Donald Moodie; together with the documents therein referred to, which were returned to me for the purpose of being restored to you.

Enclosures 8th  
 Sept. 1841. 10  
 documents, *vide*  
*p. 57 supra*; and  
 pages 41, 2 of  
 Record for 1775,  
 [the passage rela-  
 tive to N. van  
 der Merwe being  
 marked with the  
 pen.]

As His Excellency is naturally anxious to recover, if possible, those documents which are still missing, and which are the property of Government, and as Mr. Moodie regards the recovery of them as essential to the completeness of his work—His Excellency has no doubt but that, in terms of your former communication on these topics, you will afford him any further

information which you may possess, relative to the subjects referred to in Mr. Moodie's letter.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

(Signed)

J. MOORE CRAIG.

The Rev. Dr. Philip, Church-square.

(Copy.)

Church Square, September 15th, 1841.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter 9th September accompanied with the documents which were lent to be returned, and a copy of a letter addressed to His Excellency by Mr. Moodie to be transmitted to me.

In reply to His Excellency the Governor stating that—as His Excellency is naturally anxious to recover if possible those documents which are still missing and which are the property of Government, and as Mr. Moodie regards the recovery of them as essential to the completeness of his work, His Excellency has no doubt that in terms of my former communication on this topic I will afford him any further information which I may possess relative to the subject referred to in Mr. Moodie's letter:—

I beg leave to return my most sincere thanks to His Excellency for the confidence which he expresses in my disposition to meet his views on this subject, but having at present no further information to communicate, I can add nothing more to what I have already said in reference to it. At the same time His Excellency may rest assured that if at any future period I shall obtain any additional information respecting it, I shall immediately forward the intelligence to Government without waiting for a fresh application to that effect.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

(Signed)

JOHN PHILIP.

J. Moore Craig, Esq.,

Acting Sec. to Govt., &c. &c.

Cape Town, September 22d, 1841

Sir,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th instant, transmitting for my information the result of the final reference which has been made to the Rev. Dr.

Philip; and have now the honor to express my respectful thanks to His Excellency the Governor, for the just and effectual support which I have experienced in this matter; and without which it would have been impossible for me to discharge aright the solemn obligations imposed on me by His Excellency's directions.

I trust that the correspondence already submitted sufficiently proves, that in this case the intervention of authority was not needlessly or prematurely solicited; and the recovered papers, as distinguished in the Records now printing, furnish lasting proofs of the importance of the result.

With reference to Dr. Philip's statement of the 5th August, that, from certain alleged obstacles, he had "found it impossible to answer (my) queries with the *promptitude* (I) desired":—I have now the honor to submit the whole of my correspondence with that reverend gentleman—from the 6th May, until closed by my letter to him, and my final appeal to public authority on the 6th July—published by me on the 15th inst., in consequence of his being about to depart for the interior—as he subsequently did, on the 20th.

The principal obstacle alleged by Dr. Philip being "the absence of the documents required," and the 6th July happening to have been the day(\*) on which "the documents required"—with exception of those for which Dr. Philip has hitherto failed to account—were put out of my way, without notice given, although they had been discovered "upwards of three weeks," and "returned" by Dr. Philip, when he had finished his "perusal" of them, for "three days"(†)—the enclosed correspondence will enable His Excellency to decide upon the accuracy of the statement above quoted, and to perceive my reasons for ceasing to address myself to Dr. Philip—without any observation upon my part.

It will be observed that I was chiefly actuated by a conviction that—in the present state of information on the subject—the slightest admission of error from the avowed author of "*Researches in South Africa*," the reputed author of the *essential* part of the "Report of the Committee on Aborigines," was to be preferred(‡) to the most satisfactory demonstration; and, had my objects been frustrated by no other cause than an attempt to exact undue promptitude, it is probable that your communications would have elicited the information required. Yet—though the reverend gentleman seems entirely satisfied(§) with the tenor of your letters—I do not find that—with exception of the partial restitution of the papers—the queries sanctioned by the Government have been more successful than my own.

(\*) *Vide* p. 41. (†) p. 50. (‡) p.p. 16, 30. (§) p.p. 39, 62.

But, whatever may be the opinions entertained of the conduct of the correspondence on either side; and whatever may have been the fate of the original documents for which Dr. Philip has, in effect, refused to account;(\*) there can be no longer any doubt, that their contents are identical with those of the papers which I have submitted to him,(†) and which I now feel it to be my duty to submit to the Government.

Numerous proofs of a similar description might be furnished from other portions of the Records; but the following instances, presented by the identification and publication of these papers, will enable the Government to ascertain, with sufficient precision, the value of the information derived from the same source by the British Parliament and public.

I have accordingly the honor to annex for this purpose:—

*First*,—The account given by the writer of the Parliamentary Report, and by Dr. Philip, of the object and tenor of the Order of 1774, prefaced by some corresponding statements for which no authority has been cited by the author, nor found in the Records; and—the true contents of the same Order.

*Second*,—Dr. Philip's account of the execution of that Order; and—that contained in the Colonial Office Journals of the period; which last minutely corresponds with such of the reports as have been cited by, and recently recovered from Dr. Philip.

*Third*,—Dr. Philip's account of the nature of the charge against Nicolaas van der Merwe, for acting “in violation of his instructions”—and an extract from the paper submitted to him on the 9th inst., as being the only “official authority” to which his “brief memorandum” on the subject could refer.

For a fuller elucidation of the general subject of this correspondence, I beg to refer—on the one hand—to the accounts given of the contents of the papers recently recovered (1774—77) in the third chapter of the “Researches”:—and the in historical portion of the Parliamentary Report on Aborigines:—and upon the other—to the papers on which these accounts purport to be founded, as now publishing in the Record.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

D. MOODIE.

The hon. J. Moore Craig, Esq.,  
Acting Sec. to Gov.

(\*) *Vide* p.p. 38.60.62. (†) 13.15.60.

# I. ACCOUNTS OF THE OBJECT AND TENOR OF THE ORDER OF 1774,

ACCORDING TO

## *The EVIDENCE before the Committee on Aborigines.*

"Resol. 17 May 1774. The Krygsraad of Stellenbosch (board of discipline of the burgher corps) made a representation of the repeated robberies committed by the Bushmen, and a commando of 250 men was consequently ordered out. The field commandant was to have the rank of cornet; and the field corporals that of sergeants; ammunition was supplied to the commando, and special instructions for the commandant were approved of. From this period may be dated the determination of Government to permit, in case of the Bushmen refusing to make a permanent peace, their being compelled to do so by force.

*Note* : — This application of the Krygsraad contains many reasons, showing the necessity of a commando." (*Parl. papers*, 1835. p. 19.)

## *The REPORT of the Committee on Aborigines.*

"In the year 1774 an order was issued for the extirpation of the whole of the Bushmen, and three commandos, or military expeditions, were sent out to execute it." (*Report*, p. 27.)

## *Dr. Philip's "OFFICIAL authority."*

1774. APRIL 19. Letter from the combined Boards of Landdrost and Heemraden, and Landdrost and Militia Officers, Stellenbosch, to Governor VAN PLETTENBERG and Council.

"HONORABLE SIR, & GENTLEMEN,  
The undersigned Landdrost, Heemraden, and Militia Officers having, in compliance with your respected order and in conformity with your intention, proceeded—in our meetings of the 28th December of last year, and the 28th of March and 19th of April of the present year, which were convened for this express purpose, in order to concert measures whereby the inhabitants of the Districts of Camdeboo, Nieuweveld, Hantam, Groote, Middel, and Kleyne Roggevels and Bokkevels—might be at length (*dog een-*

## *Dr. Philip.*

Extract from "PHILIP'S Researches in South Africa."

"Finding themselves at last confined, harrassed, pressed upon, and plundered on all sides, and perceiving that no union of their strength against the Colonists would avail, they [the Hottentots] divided themselves into smaller parties, hoping thus more easily to find the means of subsistence, and to preserve from their oppressors the little property which they had still remaining. With this view, such of them as preferred famine to slavery, with the few sheep and goats left them, retired to the mountains, or the most barren and uninhabited parts of the deserts; and those who remained in the fertile territory gradually lost their independence, sinking into servitude as herdsmen and domestics of the boers. Nor were the former long protected by their seclusion against the cupidity of their encroaching neighbours.

\* *Vide supra* p.p. 5. 7. 38. 62. This paper was translated from the original; that found by Dr. Philip—(inaccurately dated 17th April)—is accordingly stated to be "a copy." The reverse of this is the case with respect to the letter of May 17—here given from the copy in the Despatch Book: that found by Dr. Philip, and not stated to be a copy, will therefore—should it ever be restored—in all probability prove to be the original missed from Stellenbosch. These papers are published in the original language in the Dutch Record 1769—75.

maat) effectually secured and protected from the murderous rapacity of the Boschjesmans Hottentots, who constantly congregate together and maintain themselves in the mountains in those quarters, and who, according to repeated, and moreover to recently received information and complaints of the said remote inhabitants, have proceeded to such violence that they not only murder in the fields the cattle herds of the inhabitants and then carry off the cattle to their dens, but also that their stubbornness had so far increased that they overpowered the homesteads and set fire to the dwellings. In order, then, that the said inhabitants should be re-established by the strong hand, and thereafter also maintained in the peaceful possession of their places of abode and cattle farms, which, from these causes, they had abandoned; we therefore, in our said meeting of the 28th December, took into preliminary consideration, as well, the necessity that the said robbers should, for the attainment of that object, be attacked at one and the same time in their places of concealment, and, in this manner, reduced either to a permanent peace and tranquillity, or otherwise entirely subdued and destroyed; as also, the impossibility which we feel of rendering to the said inhabitants any assistance from this quarter: and having furthermore considered that it is totally impracticable for our inhabitants to effect any thing towards the attainment of the object before stated, without the assistance of faithful Bastard and other Hottentots, who are accustomed to the use of firearms, and who can elamber into the mountains and there trace the robbers to their haunts.

For the several reasons, above stated, we were then obliged to resolve, previously to coming to any final decision upon the subject, to require the attendance of the Field Corporals commanding in the said districts, and first to take their advice, not only as to the mode and manner in which we could, in this respect, best help the said inhabitants, but especially as to the season of the year which would be best and most convenient, as well with regard to procuring the water and pasture necessary to men and cattle, as with regard to the cold and other obstacles to be encountered; which field corporals having appeared in our meeting before-mentioned, of the 28th of March, we first required them to make return of the number of all such Burghers and Bastard Hottentots living under

The flattering and fabulous accounts of the new Colony published by Kolben, drew thither every day new settlers from the mother country; and this influx of strangers, together with the children born to the former Colonists, occasioned an increasing demand for new lands and servants. Every addition of territory requiring additional lands to cultivate it, the Colonists, after having deprived the poor natives of their springs of water, now penetrated into the deserts and mountains to seize their women and children, and to reduce them to slavery, on the lands which their fathers and husbands had occupied as a free and independent people. The aborigines, who had a long time suffered with exemplary patience the injuries inflicted upon them, finding that no retreat could protect them from the cruelties of their oppressors, sought resources of annoyance from the desperate condition to which they were reduced; and the Colonists, smarting under the re-action of the accumulated evils they had heaped upon them during the space of seventy years, and which could no longer be endured, formed the project of making the Colonial Government a party in assisting them to enslave or exterminate all that remained of the original inhabitants. But to attempt so monstrous a project as this, or even openly to seize the property of a whole nation, without some alleged provocation or imminent necessity, would, in all probability, have excited the disapprobation of the Governor, and retarded the accomplishment of their design. They sent, therefore, to the seat of Government the most vilifying representations, imputing to the Bushmen the most depraved and pernicious propensities, and accusing them of incessantly plundering the property of the colonists. The Government, which had by this time, (1770) declined from the purity of its principles, was misled by the force of these charges, aided, perhaps, by a share of the colonial habits of feeling with respect to the natives which it had by this time acquired; this scheme of the colonists was, therefore speedily authorised, and it was not long before the administration entered as warmly into it as the colonists themselves; for we find that in the year 1774, the whole race of Bushmen, or Hottentots, who had not submitted to slavery, was ordered to be seized or extirpated; the privilege of slavery was designed exclusively for the women and children; the men whose natural habits disqualified them for the pur-



their command, as they could, without too much exposing the country, employ for this purpose; to the returns thus obtained we added the number of Bastards and Hottentots in the service of the inhabitants hereabouts, according to a return made by the several members of this meeting, and upon whose fidelity, and dexterity in the use of firearms, full reliance might be placed; upon which it was found that there could be thus employed,

100 Europeans, and

150 Bastard Hottentots,—thus, in all, 250.

We then considering, not only that such a corps is too numerous to be sent out with the hope of any good result, except under the orders of a supreme commandant, but that this office, moreover, demands too much care to be entrusted to the discretion and ordinary management of the respective corporals; it was, therefore, deemed highly necessary, in conformity with your respected intentions, that such an officer should be appointed; but as such a commander must necessarily possess a due knowledge of the constitution of the country, the condition of the inhabitants, and the character of the Hottentots, and as from want of knowledge in these respects, it was deemed

out of the question to confer the appointment upon any of the officers of the Land Militia here, and as, according to the opinions received from all the field corporals here present, the requisite qualifications of conduct, capacity, and vigilance, were found in the person of Godlieb Rudolph Opperman, we have therefore unanimously resolved, as the course most advantageous to the public service, to submit his name to the approval of Your Excellency and Council, for the appointment of field commandant over the following field corporals, commanding in the undermentioned districts:—

David Schalk van der Merwe, in the Camdeboo country, Adriaan van Jarsveld, As., upon the Sneeuwbergen; Charl Marais, along the foot of the Sneeuwbergen; Jacob de Clercq, in the Nieuweveld beyond the Coup; Nieholas van der Merwe, in the Bokkeveld beyond the Witsenberg; Pieter Jacobs, beyond the Hex River, Gerrit Putter, in the Klyne Roggeveld; Hendric Olivier, in the Middel Roggeveld; Gerrit van Wyk, Gs., in the Bokkeveld, over the Doorn River and the Ilantam; Willem Steenkamp, in the Groote Roggeveld; Lucas Steenkamp, on the lower part of the Oliphants River; Johannes Arnoldus Botma, beyond the Picquet Bergen; and Willem Burgert, Ws., upon the Oliphants River beyond the Picquiniërs Kloof;—by whom and the men under their orders, together with the Bastards and Hottentots, we have, with their advice and that of the commandant, deemed it best that a general expedition, under his supreme command, but in three divisions, should take the field at the same time, against the plundering Bosjesmans Hottentots, of which force one division shall consist of the field commandant and the field corporals D. S. van der Merwe, A. van Jarsveld, J. de Clercq, and C. Marais,—of the Zwaartenberg, the Camdeboo, the Sneeuwberg, the Nieuweveld and Coup.

Another, under the *Commando* of N. van der Merwe, with the field corporals P. Jacobs, G. Putter, and H. Olivier, of the Middel and Klyne Roggeveld; as also of the Bokkeveld beyond the Witsenberg; and the third party under the guidance of Gerrit van Wyk, with the field corporals W. Steenkamp, L. Steenkamp, J. A. Botma, and W. Burgert, of the Lower Bokkeveld, the Ilantam, the Groote Roggeveld, and the Oliphants River; in order thus

poses of the colonists, and whose revenge was probably dreaded, were destined to death.

The decision of the Government was followed by an order for the raising of three *Commandoes*, or military parties, to proceed against this unfortunate race. These were usually raised by the different fieldcornets, who collected the colonists on the frontier in their respective jurisdictions, having one commandant over the whole. They were to be armed, and to scour the neighbouring country to discover the abodes of the Bushmen; and when they espied a kraal, they were to surprise it if possible, and, singling out the men to shoot them. The surviving women and children were to be divided and shared among the members of the expedition, or distributed among the neighbouring farmers," (I. p. 41. et seq.)

"The account of the *Commando* system employed against the native tribes already given (see Vol. I. p. 41 et seq.) renders it unnecessary to recapitulate here the revolting details of this disgraceful chapter of Colonial History. I only request the reflecting reader to retain the facts, there stated on official authority, in his recollection, while we proceed," &c. &c. (*Ib.* II. 3.)

to attack the said robbers upon all sides, in their caves and hiding places in the mountains, and either to compel them to a peace, or otherwise entirely to subdue them. It is deemed most advisable that this expedition should take the field either in the latter end of the ensuing August, or at the furthest in the beginning of September, as being the most fitting season of the year.

But as it has appeared to us, with the advice aforesaid, that independent-ly of the Christians to be employed, who in all are but 100, and thus constitute too weak a force to act with any hope of success against the numerous robbers, a much greater number of Bastards and Hottentots must, according to the returns received, be thus employed, who are unprovided with the fire-arms which are indispensable, and without which no advantage can be expected. We therefore take the liberty to request, as well for this purpose as for the general equipment of the expedition, that we may be supplied, on the Company's account, with the following necessary articles of ammunition, viz.—90 good fire-locks, 3 chests, covered with painted canvas, and provided with locks, in order to keep the same locked up and secured at night from the accompanying Hottentots and also from the rain; 900 lbs. of gunpowder, 1,800 lbs. of lead, 3,000 flints, 24 shackles for the legs, 48 hand-cuffs, to secure the male prisoners until either peace is concluded with them or they are entirely subdued.

And as the Field Commandant has represented that the said divisions will often, during heavy rains and bad weather, be obliged to encamp in the open country for days and nights together, when detained by the swelling of rivers, in a great measure surrounded by the robbers, and must therefore remain under arms, and upon their guard against sudden surprises, and must also, for the same reasons, have their ammunition always at hand, protected from the rain, dry, and fit for use, which cannot be done in the wagons, loaded as they will be with the provisions and other articles; we therefore further take the liberty of requesting that three tents may also be issued, viz.—one for each division; the wagons, draught oxen, and horses, required for this expedition, will be furnished by the field corporals and burghers employed thereon, as being those most interested, in proportions, to be fixed according to the circumstances and means of each, by the commandant and the leaders of the other divisions.

There will also be furnished, either at the cost of the Drostdy, or at that of the inhabitants hereabouts, who have grazing farms in the said remote parts, and have, therefore, as well as the Drostdy, an interest in this matter; —3 aums of brandy, and 300lbs. of tobacco, as well for daily issue to the Bastards and Hottentots, as to present, together with other bagatelles and trinkets, to the said robbers in the event of attaining to the desired object of concluding a peace.

With a similar view we also request that there may be issued on the Company's account, an assortment of beads and copper rings, and some staves with copper heads, bearing the Company's mark, in order to present to the so-called kraal captains or chiefs of the Bosjesmans Hottentots, as tokens that they are,—in the event of our succeeding as desired, in concluding a permanent peace,—taken under the protection of the Government.

And as it has frequently happened, not merely formerly, but, indeed, principally on the present occasion, that many of the said field corporals have, under all kinds of pretexts, requested their discharge from that office, without their being able to advance valid and lawful pleas of exemption—which, however, after inquiry, is found chiefly to be owing to their liability to serve on all dangerous expeditions, and to call out their subordinates for that purpose,—not enjoying, on that account, the smallest privilege, and being bound and compelled besides, upon a change of residence, to serve under others, or even under one of their own men who may have been appointed in their stead, and also to perform, as before, the ordinary duty of exercise.

We have therefore resolved, under the approval of your Excellency and Council,—as it is compatible with the circumstances of the times, with equity and necessity, that some provision should herein be made,—to add to the present title of those officers the rank of Sergeant (*Wagtmeester*) as well to stimulate them to the faithful discharge of their duties in general, as to encourage them on the present occasion; and in order, as far as possible, to procure experienced persons to fill this office in future, we have resolved henceforth not to discharge them from all those duties of burgher exercise, excepting for very weighty and admissible reasons, and even then not before they shall have

proposed another fit person to us or to the field commandant, nor until such proposed successor shall have appeared in person; we have also deemed it useful and necessary, and most agreeable to the constitution of the country, that the field corporals shall, twice a-year, to wit,—once in six months, render a return to the field commandant of the number of men under their command, as also of all alterations which may occur among them, whether from change of residence or otherwise; what young men have attained to the stature and age necessary to their being inscribed in the lists of the yeomanry, and in general a report of whatever happens in their districts of any kind of public interest; of all which the commandant is personally to deliver a written report once in four months.

And seeing that the newly-appointed Commandant does not enjoy any prerogative whatever in consideration of the charge now imposed upon him, excepting his new title; and as, besides the said thirteen field corporals, he has to command a large body of burghers, we have therefore deemed it most equitable, and have therefore unanimously resolved, to bestow upon him, for the better maintenance of his authority, the appropriate rank of Cornet.

We have, accordingly, humbly to request that your Excellency and Council will be pleased to honor this arrangement, as well as that respecting the field corporals, upon the grounds which have been advanced, with your approval and confirmation.

We further take the liberty to submit for approval, the Instructions which we have framed for the guidance of the commandant during this expedition, and also for that of the field corporals under his orders; and trusting that we have herein acted in all respects conformably to the views of your Excellency and Council, and according to the exigencies of the case and the constitution of the country,

We have the honor, &c. &c.

M. A. Bergh, J. B. Hoffman, J. Blignaut, P. G. Wiim, A. Brink, jr., J. R. van As, P. W. de Vos, P. A. Meyburg, J. A. Theron, H. A. Malan, J. de Villiers, J. Ps., H. O. Laubscher, A. J. Meyburg, J. A. Theron, jr., M. van As, D. J. Bleumer.—(*Record*, Part III. p. 25.)

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1774. APRIL 19. Instructions,—according to which the newly-appointed Field Commandant GODLIEB RUDOLPH OPPERMAN shall have to regulate his conduct upon the Expedition about to attack the Bosjesmans Hottentots, who still continue to commit murder and robbery.

As we, in conformity with the highly respected views and orders of the Honorable Governor *in loco*, Mr. Joachim van Plettenberg, have deemed it necessary to the welfare of the colony and the inhabitants, and have therefore resolved, to send out a general expedition, under your supreme command, in three divisions, against the Bosjesmans Hottentots, who are daily proceeding in murder and robbery, in order to attack those robbers in their dens and hiding places, and to reduce them either to a permanent state of peace and quiet, or otherwise, in case of necessity, entirely to destroy them, in order, by this means, again to re-establish and thereafter to maintain in the peaceful possession of their abandoned farms, our inhabitants who have already been expelled from their dwellings and possessions by the said robbers.—we have, therefore, placed under your orders, as we do by these presents, the following thirteen field corporals, commanding in the districts herein specified,—(*Here follow the names and districts as in the preceding paper*),—who, together with the men (*manschappen*) under their orders, constitute, according to the returns received, a force of about 150 men. As, however, it is quite impossible to afford you any more assistance of burghers out of these neighbouring districts, and as, at the same time, a much greater force is required for this expedition, as well as for the defence and security of the districts before mentioned; we have, therefore, caused the field corporals, who are placed under your orders, to make a return, which is now handed to you, of such Bastards and other Hottentots as are resident with, or in the service of, the farmers, and upon whose fidelity, and dexterity in the use of fire arms, full reliance can be placed, and which return amounts in all to 150.

You shall, therefore, in the first place, make such a division with respect to the burghers under the orders of the said field corporals that one-third of the number may be left at home for the protection and safety of the country; over which men so remaining at home you shall appoint, as provisional field corporals, the most fitting persons, to act in the place of the said field corporals until the expedition shall have been performed; and with the remaining two-thirds, with the addition of the Bastards and Hottentots, you will commence the expedition and take the field in the latter end of the month of August next ensuing, or, at furthest, in the beginning of the month of September.

The wagons, draught oxen, and provisions required for the expedition, as well as three aums of brandy, to be issued to the Hottentots, must be furnished by the inhabitants interested herein, and those possessing farms in the said districts.

Towards the equipment of this expedition there have been issued by the Honorable Company, according to the accompanying separate list, the necessary fire-arms, ammunition, and other articles, together with some beads and staves with copper heads, bearing an engraving of the Company's mark: the Drosty has added, to the same end, 300 lbs. of tobacco besides.

As, however, this expedition cannot be performed in one united corps, and on the contrary, as it is absolutely necessary that the robbers, who are scattered far and wide in the mountains, be attacked at various points at the same time, you shall therefore divide your men into three separate commandos, as nearly equal as possible, and appoint to each the necessary and fitting commanders, nominating also such as in the event of unexpected deaths or other casualty shall succeed to the command. You will, in the same manner, make equal division, among the three parties, of the said ammunition, provisions, and other articles.

And, although it is, indeed, impossible here to specify and prescribe to you how the march is to proceed, and in which direction the attack shall take place, still your arrangements must be so made that the said three commandos shall set out upon their journey on one and the same day, in the manner following, to wit:

The first under your own command with the field corporals, D. S. van der Merwe, &c.—(*Distribution and names as in the preceding paper*)—to assemble behind the Sneeuwberg, and to make the attack in those districts.

The second, under the *Commando* of Nicolaas van der Merwe, to assemble at the Sax River, and make the attack in the surrounding districts.

The third, under the direction of Gerrit van Wyk, to meet in the Lower Bokkeveld, and to make an attack in the so-called Bosjesmansland.

So soon as this attack shall, in the manner stated, have been commenced, and when the robbers shall have been driven out of their dens and lurking places, beyond, or to the further side of the most remote dwellings of the inhabitants of the said districts, the commanders of the said parties shall not pursue them in an inconsiderate manner, and expose their men to needless danger, but, on the contrary, shall employ every possible means of entering into an amicable negotiation with them, and thus endeavour to bring them to a cessation of hostilities and to a peace; to which end, on finding them so disposed, you will enter into a treaty with them, presenting to them, as a proof of our disposition to take them under our protection, a moderate portion of the said tobacco and other bagatelles and trinkets, together with a promise of giving to them, in the event of their conducting themselves peaceably towards our inhabitants, and leaving them unmolested, some farms to reside upon.

The object being attained in this respect, and peace having been concluded with the said people, you shall evacuate for them, and give to them for their occupation, as many farms, or tracts of country (*velden*) as, without too great injury to our own inhabitants, they may require for themselves or for pasture for their cattle. You shall also take the utmost care that our said inhabitants do not place themselves further than, or beyond the said Hottentots, nor molest them in any way or manner whatsoever, and thus again give them reason or inducement to revenge and murder. You shall, on the contrary, in such case, exert all your diligence and authority, and adopt whatever means may be deemed useful and necessary to avert or prevent the like. You may and shall also, should the object of making peace be accomplished, place over the said Bosjesmans Hottentots the so-called kraal captains or chiefs, and deliver to them, as proof and token that they are taken under the protection of the



government, the said staves with copper heads, bearing the Company's mark.

In the event, however, of your being unable to dispose them in any way whatsoever to the proposals above detailed; and should necessity thus demand that they should be entirely subdued and destroyed, in such case it is left to your good management and that of the commanders of the other parties, to act therein according to the exigencies and circumstances of the case, and to attack and slay them, in such a cautious manner, however, that our own inhabitants may be as little as possible exposed to danger, and not rashly led to slaughter; and also that no blood shall be spilled without absolute necessity, and that as much as shall be by any means possible, the women and the defenceless males shall be spared.

And as it is evident that you will, in the attack, get possession of many of the wives and children of the Bosjesmans Hottentots, and that they will become troublesome to you, it is therefore left to you again to release the women, but you will keep the feeble males and those approaching to manhood\* in safe custody, until this expedition is ended and all is restored to quiet, when you will let them go, or divide them in proportions among the poorest of the inhabitants there, in order to continue to serve them for a fixed and equitable term of years, in consideration of their receiving proper maintenance, for which purpose some of them must be brought hither.

You shall, however, take good care and prevent their being—any more than the other free Hottentots who have entered the service of our inhabitants for hire—maltreated by them in an unlawful manner (as has more than once happened with many) and thus excited to wicked (*heilloose*) revenge. You will also take care that the cattle plundered from the inhabitants, which may be retaken during this expedition and afterwards, be restored to the former possessors, in proportion to the wants of each person.

As it cannot be foreseen how long this expedition will last, or when it can be brought to a conclusion, it is left to you to act therein according to circumstances.

When, however, the main point is attained, and the said robbers are either brought to a substantial peace, or altogether subdued, the commanders of the several parties shall, as soon as possible, and in the most suitable and convenient manner, transmit, by one of their men, either to you or direct to the Landdrost, a written detail of the result of their expedition and attack.

You will also restore to the inhabitants who, in consequence of the said robberies, have been forced to abandon the loan farms held by them from the Company, and to betake themselves to the abodes of other inhabitants residing nearer to this place,—their formerly occupied and indispensable farms, as well those on which they reside, as their cattle farms; of which your proceedings, as well as of the general result of this expedition, you shall then, as soon as possible, and without loss of time, deliver in person a detailed account in writing.

You and the commanders of the other parties will take care that the ammunition and other articles which have been mentioned, and which have been delivered to you, be frugally used and not wasted, nor unnecessarily expended; and after the termination of this expedition you will render, here, a proper account of the same, restoring whatever residue there may be.

And as we have, on this occasion, also deemed it necessary, and have, therefore, resolved for the welfare of the colony to make the following regulations and alterations in the duties of the field corporals, you will therefore take care that they do, twice in each year—that is to say, once during each six months—give in, either to you or to the Landdrost, as most convenient, reports in writing of all the men who reside in their districts, and also all changes of residence; also of the number of burghers and other men who are fit or unfit for duty,—as also what youths, within those districts, have attained to the proper age and bodily stature, and have thus to be inscribed among the yeomanry (*burgerye*.)

You will also take care that the said districts placed under your charge are, and continue to be, henceforth provided with the needful and qualified field corporals, in the room of those retiring, who will not be discharged excepting upon weighty and admissible grounds, while the said field corporals shall be bound and obliged, on requesting their discharge, not merely to propose

\* In the Record the words "*weerbaar en aankomende*," were imperfectly rendered "adult and young."

another fitting person, but to send such proposed successor in person to you, or, in the manner most convenient, to the Landdrost, of which discharges and new appointments you will receive the necessary written intimation.

And as it is now quite impossible to prescribe any thing further for your guidance, as we cannot foresee what may be demanded by the emergencies of future events, and the circumstances of the time, it is therefore left to your own sound discretion and prudence, with the advice of the field corporals under your orders, according to the position of affairs, and the nature of the difficulties which may present themselves, to make such regulations and alterations—as well respecting this expedition as otherwise—as shall be found to be useful and necessary, of which, as well as of all changes and remarkable events in their districts, written reports shall, as above directed, be made through you by the field corporals, three times in each year, that is, once during every four months, and you shall, besides, in each half year, personally deliver, at this place a general statement of the whole.

Trusting, now, that all will be managed by you discreetly, according to the duty of an upright and honorable man,—the authority of government maintained, and the best interests of the colony and of the inhabitants duly consulted, we will recommend you the protection of the Almighty, and remain.

Your good friends,

M. A. BERGH, &c. &c.

Actum in the meeting of Heemraden and Military  
Officers, at Stellenbosch, 19th April 1774.

(Signatures as above.)  
(*Ib.* p. 28.)

1774. MAY 17. Copy of a letter from Governor PLETTENBERG  
and Council to the Landdrost of Stellenbosch.

GOOD FRIEND,

After your letter of the 19th of April last had been this day read before our meeting, and it had appeared to us, from the contents of the same, that you,—after your deliberations (*besoign*) upon the subject, had found that, in order to protect the inhabitants of the Camdeboo, Nieuweveld, Hantam, Grootc, Middel, and Kleyne Rogge and Bokkevels districts, against the violence and pillage (*stroperyen*) committed for some time back by the Bosjesmans Hottentots, and again to re-establish them in the occupation of their abandoned possessions,—could not well afford them any assistance from the nearer districts, and had therefore been obliged to make the necessary arrangements for the employment—independently of a strong commando of one hundred persons, inhabitants of the aforesaid distant districts—of a force of one hundred and fifty, as well Bastards as aboriginal (*oorspronkelyke*) Hottentots besides, who are faithful to us, and fit to handle fire-arms: We, therefore, approve of all the aforesaid arrangements, as well in respect to the persons and the numbers of which the said commando shall consist, as of the mode of surrounding the said banditti, and in the first place endeavouring to induce them to consent to a permanent peace; but, should there be no means of effecting this, in such ease to bring them to reason by force.

We approve, in like manner, of your having—in order that the said strong detachment may be regularly conducted, and after the good assurance which you have obtained, that the charge may confidently be reposed in the person of Godlieb Christian Opperman,—appointed him Field Commandant with the rank of Cornet.

In the same manner we also approve of your having—upon the reasonable grounds stated—bestowed upon the field corporals of the several districts mentioned in your said letter, the rank of sergeant; as also of the other regulations relative to their functions, among which we particularly notice, as highly advantageous and serviceable, that the said field corporals shall report, twice a year precisely, to the field commandant, and he again to the Landdrost every four months, upon every occurrence of any importance in the said widely extended districts.

We have further, upon the request and proposition conveyed to us, in the letter before mentioned, thought fit, in order to assist the inhabitants in the performance of the expedition in hand, to issue towards the same, on the Company's account, 90 firelocks, 900 lbs. gunpowder, 1,800 lbs. lead, 3,000 flints, 24 handcufts, 12 leg-irons; to which are also added, to be used as presents to



the Bosjesmaus, on making a peace with them, 30 lbs. of beads of various sorts, 9 staves with copper heads, bearing an engraving of the Company's mark, 4 lbs. of copper for rings; there are also granted, besides, 3 tents for the preservation of the ammunition in general, and 3 arm chests, provided with good coverings, and sufficient padlocks for the security of the arms in particular.

We have also read the Instructions which have been drawn up for the commandant and enclosed in your said letter, and having found that the same are so framed (*ingerigt*), in every respect, that if strictly observed, we have reason to anticipate a fortunate issue to the expedition,—we therefore, in like manner, fully approve of the said Instructions.

(*In margine*).—*Actum* in Council in the Castle  
the Good Hope, May 17, 1774.

By order, &c.  
O. M. BERGH.  
Member and Secretary.  
(*Ib.* p. 31.)

## II. EXECUTION OF THE ORDER.

### *Official Account.*

### *Dr. Philip.*

1774. Nov. 30. Of the three detachments of burger dragoons which were sent out against the plundering Bushman Hottentots, that under the *commando* of Nicolaas van der Merwe, which had performed the expedition in the Middel and Kleine Roggeveld, and then in the Bokkeveld, behind the Witzeuberg, having returned, a written report was made, thereupon, by the said Van der Merwe, that during this expedition, he had in several *rencontres* with the said Hottentots, killed 142, and taken 89 of them, and that only one of his party, the farmer Ocker Schalkwyk, had lost his life, in consequence of a wound by a poisoned arrow; and further, that he had made a treaty of peace with a certain Bushman Hottentot, named Joris, who had been taken prisoner at Sak River, and had, thereupon, on receiving his promise to take care that no thefts of cattle, or other acts of violence should henceforth be committed, appointed him captain, as a token of which he gave him a staff bearing the Company's mark, and also presented him with some beads—(*Ib.* p. 30.)

“There is no record to show the district to which the first Commando was sent, or how long it continued in the field; but it appears that the party engaged in this service in the month of September, 1774, in the space of eight days succeeded in shooting ninety-six Bushmen. The women and children taken prisoners were divided among the men, but their number is not specified in the official report. Van Wyk was the name of the Commandant.

The second Commando was conducted by a Boer named Marais. In his report to the Colonial Office, he states that he had taken one hundred and eighteen prisoners, who, it is presumed, must have been women and children, but the number of killed is not mentioned.

The third Commando, under Van der Merwe, was commissioned to the Bokkeveld, where they destroyed one hundred and forty-two Bushmen.”—

(*Ib.* p. 43.)

1775. Jan. 13. The return and the proceedings of the commando sent out under the field corporal Nicolaas van der Merwe, against the plundering Bushman Hottentots, having been duly entered, under date 30th Nov. last year, due regularity requires that it should be here further notified, that the other two commandoes, which went out for the same purpose, under the Commandant C. R. Opperman, and the field corporal Gerrit van Wyk, have also successively returned, and that the said Opperman has reported thereupon:—That he, in compliance with the orders prescribed for his guidance on the subject, had taken the course of the Swarteberg, the Camdeboo, the Sneeuwberg, the Nicuwveld, and Coup, and that the Hottentots, with whom he fell in in those quarters, opposed themselves to him, and the force under him, with such fury, that he had found himself compelled to resort to force; there being, in sundry attacks, 265 of the said robbers shot dead, and 129 men, women, and children taken prisoners; while on the other hand, some of his men, and he, Opperman himself, had been wounded, or struck by poisoned arrows, though no lives were lost in consequence; and further, that at the so-called Captain's Kraal and at Buffels River, he had appointed two Hottentots, who evinced a peaceful disposition, captains over their kraals, giving each of them a copper-headed

staff, and presenting them with some beads, copper rings, and some pounds of tobacco.

The said G. van Wyk has also reported the occurrences of the expedition under him to the Lower Bokkeveld, the Hantam, Great Roggeveld, and Oliphants River, namely, that he had killed 96 of this murderous and predatory gang, (*gespuyts*) and taken 21 of both sexes, great or small, but that in the obstinate attacks and resistance of the Hottentots, none of his men were wounded, and only one shot through the hat; as all this and the further proceedings of the said commandoes may be seen more minutely and amply detailed in the journals and report held and delivered by the said field commandant Goblieb Rudolf Opperman, and the field corporals Nicolaas van der Merwe and Gerrit van Wyk, and which are deposited in the office of the Political Secretary, together with the lists of such of the captured Hottentots as have been placed with various poor persons, for a certain term of years, to serve them for the needful maintenance. It meanwhile appears, from the said reports, that the number of Bushman Hottentots killed, amounted in all to 503, and that of the prisoners to 241.—(*Ib.* p. 40.)

### III. CHARGE AGAINST VAN DER MERWE.

#### *Official Account.*

1775, June 13. "After this the Landdrost stated, that the burger A. G. Schombie, who had served on the said expedition under the command of the field corporal Nicolaas van der Merwe, had come to him and charged the said field corporal with having acted contrary to his instructions, and caused innocent blood to be spilt; and seeing that such a statement must necessarily be inquired into, in order that the guilty might be punished according to desert; he, the Landdrost, had thought proper, as the expedition was sent from this place, and as the field corporal acted under instructions issued by this board, to summon him before it, together with his accuser, in order that the case might be inquired into, and such decision come to as might be deemed necessary, according to the circumstances," &c. &c. \* \* \* "Upon which it was resolved, as it had appeared to the satisfaction of the Board, that the said field corporal Van der Merwe had done his duty, to acquit and absolve him from this charge as unfair and originating in self-interest."—(*Ib.* p. 41.)

#### *Dr. Philip.*

"Whether his [Van der Merwe's] humanity was shocked at his sanguinary employment, the duration of which, to fulfil the purposes of Government, must then have appeared indefinite, or whether he dreaded their superior numbers is uncertain; but in violation of his instructions, he concluded a peace with the remaining chiefs. The Government, on hearing of this transaction highly resented it, and degraded all the Fieldcornets who had concurred with him in the measure." . . . *Ib.* I. 43.

The Resolution of May 17, is signed J. V. Plettenberg, Otto Ludr. Hemmy, H. V. Prehn, P. Hacker, O. M. Bergh, member and secretary, A. V. Schoor, J. J. L. Sueur, P. Westerhoff. With exception of the change of grammatical person; of the name of Opperman, which is correctly given in the Resolution; and of its being there stated that the copper is for "arm" rings—the contents are identical with those of the despatch.

The Resolution embodies the letter of 19th April, agreeing *literatim* with the original in the handwriting of the Secretary A. Faure, and bound in the volume of Exhibits (*Bylagen*) for 1774.]

For further particulars *vide* "Evidence of the motives and objects of the Bushman wars 1769—77."



## NOTE.

[The *entire* documentary evidence of this period, under the title of "The Evidence of the Motives and Objects of the Bushman wars, 1769—77," will be published in a few days, and—"with a view to the formation of a definitive opinion upon the expediency or inexpediency of completing the publication of the compiled Evidence" of other periods—will be prefaced by full Extracts from the Report of the Aborigines Committee and the Researches in South Africa, of *all* the passages which relate to the same subject and period. Among these extracts appears the following:..... "Another gentleman, in the service of Government, and possessed of accurate information, in a letter dated Graaff-Reinet, 1822, writes to me as follows:..... 'I have examined the documents from which you have translated and transcribed the testimonies which show the treatment the Bushmen received from 1774 to 1795, and can vouch for their correctness.'"—(*Researches* II, 37.)

For reasons which will be apparent upon perusal of the extracts at full—and with reference to the statements upon the subject, to be found at pp. 5, 11, 33, 37, 40, 41, 42, 50, and 52 of the foregoing Correspondence—it was deemed necessary to bring the subject to the notice of the Rev. Mr. FAURE, with the result shown by his subjoined letter of the 22d Oct.—D. M.]

October 26, 1841.

Cape Town, October 18, 1841.

Sir,

I beg to inform you that I am about to publish, in contrast with some of the restored papers referred to in your letter of the 9th July last, passages from the 10th, 27th, 37th and 38th pages of the second volume of Phillip's Researches, where may be seen several extracts from letters stated to have been written by you, at Graaff-Reinet, in 1822, on the subject of the Bushmen; and one extract (p. 37—9) from a letter from a gentleman whose *name* is withheld, but who writes on the *same* subject—in the *same* year—and from the *same* place—and who vouches for the correctness of the testimonies extracted by Dr. Philip, from the papers, 1774 to 1795, which, from your said letter of the 9th July, would seem to have been in your *exclusive possession* from the time when they were given to you by Dr. P. until recently discovered among your other papers.

The passages which, in prosecution of what I deem a just object, I am now about to publish, have only now fallen under my notice; and seem calculated, with reference to your letters of the 9th July, 16th August, and 2d September, and to the last paragraph of my letter of the 4th Sept., to give rise to much premature animad-

version, if published without further explanation than it is in my power to supply.

I have, therefore, deemed it just and proper to bring the subject to your notice, and have now the honor to state, that any explanation which you may furnish, will, should you desire it, be published at the same time.

A proof sheet of the passages referred to is at your command if desired; and, as I shall stop the press until made aware of your wishes on the subject, I trust you will favor me with an early communication.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

D. MOODIE.

The Rev. A. FAURE, B.D., Senior  
Minister of the Reformed Church  
Cape Town.

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Leeuwen Rust, 22d October 1841.

Sir,

Your letter of the 18th instant I received yesterday on my return from the country: and in reply I beg to inform you, that I well remember having written a letter whilst at Graaff-Reinet, to Dr. Philip, in reply to one from him containing queries regarding the Bushmen, in which I related the reciprocal services exchanged at that time between the Farmers and them, as I ascertained on the spot; but I am not the writer of the letter mentioned as "written by a gentleman whose name is withheld;" and therefore are not aware of any object requiring my troubling you for the proof sheets offered in your last paragraph.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

A. FAURE.

To D. MOODIE, Esq., &c., &c.

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## APPENDIX.

Documents explanatory of the following allegation in Mr. Moodie's letter to the Reverend Dr. Philip, dated 6th July 1841, (*supra* p. 18.)—

"For which Report (*i. e.* of the Committee on Aborigines) after an ineffectual attempt at denial had been made on your part, you had tacitly acknowledged your moral responsibility."

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*Extract from "Results of the publication of the Records," &c., by D. MOODIE, published in Cape Town, 17th Feb. 1841.*

"The individual here chiefly affected is Dr. John Philip; and he is affected in a three-fold capacity. First, as an avowed author upon this particular subject: secondly, as the chief and most accredited witness before Mr. Buxton's Committee; and thus, thirdly, as the person morally responsible for, if not in fact the actual writer of, the Report of that Committee. (1) For it will be seen that the Report in question agrees, in a most remarkable manner, with several passages contained in the published "Researches" of Dr. Philip, which are either not supported by any of the evidence upon which that Report is professedly founded, or are directly contradicted by that evidence."

"(1) It was generally rumoured at the period, and has been since stated without contradiction, in the public papers, that soon after the conclusion of the investigations of Mr. Buxton's Committee, a letter was received from Dr. Philip, then in England, by a gentleman now in Cape Town, and whose contradiction would be implicitly believed, containing a communication to the effect that he, Dr. Philip, was about to go down to the country to assist Mr. Buxton in drawing up his report. The internal evidence is, however, sufficient to satisfy the candid inquirer that too many of the conclusions and inferences which have been deduced from the evidence which has hitherto been submitted to the judgment of the world, stand upon no higher authority than the alleged facts now under examination; and which alleged facts, by whomsoever they may have been furnished, have been selected as the main supports of the Report of the Committee on Aborigines."—(*Results*, &c., p. 2.)

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*Extract from the "Zuid-Afrikaan" Newspaper, published at Cape Town, April 2d, 1841.*

The following letter, addressed to Messrs. RUTHERFOORD, has been sent to us for insertion. We most readily publish it, and feel assured that these most respected Gentlemen, being thus publicly appealed to for an explanation, on the subject to which this letter alludes, will, in justice and fairness to the parties concerned, not allow the present appeal to have been made in vain :—

To Messrs. RUTHERFOORD, Cape Town.

20th March, 1841.

Respected Gentlemen,—It is now some years since it was publicly asserted in this town, that you had received from the Rev. Dr. Philip, at that time in England, a communication, stating that he was then on the point of going down somewhere out of London along with Mr. Thomas Fowell Buxton, to assist that gentleman in preparing the Report of the House of Commons' Committee on the Treatment of the Aborigines in the British Settlements: a piece of information which excited no small degree of alarm and indignation, seeing that Dr. Philip had been the principal and most prominent witness against the Colonists in that Committee, and was thus, on his own admission, about to sit in solemn judgment on the very people he had himself accused, thus confounding at once, contrary to all English ideas of justice, the distinct offices of Public Prosecutor, Judge and Jury, constituting himself a sort of new Cerberus, whose three heads were labelled Bar, Bench and Box.



On the promulgation of the rumour, an almost immediate appeal was made to you through the daily press, as to its truth, and you permitted it to remain uncontradicted, perhaps because you looked upon it too palpably absurd, or perhaps because you knew it was not against fact!

That rumour has been once more revived, and in the late publication of Mr. Moodie, "An inquiry into the justice and expediency of completing the publication of the Authentic Records of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope," (at page 2 of the Results,) you are again pointed out as receiving such intelligence, with the assurance, on the part of Mr. Moodie, that *your contradiction would be implicitly believed*, in which every person, acquainted with your high integrity, fully coincides,

Now, Gentlemen, you cannot surely consider it improper that the public should request the favor of some statement from you on the subject,—if possible, denying its accuracy, in justice to Dr. Philip, or admitting its truth, in fairness to the inhabitants of the Colony; nor can you surely be surprised that the Colonists, in the event of your not noticing this request, should consider that "silence gives consent," and that they have not been unjust in believing you have rivetted the imputation upon Dr. Philip.

I am, Gentlemen,  
Your obedient and respectful Servant,  
A SUBSCRIBER TO THE RECORDS.

*Letter in the "Zuid-Afrikaan," published at Cape Town, 9th April 1841.*

#### MR. RUTHERFOORD'S ANSWER.

SIR,—In answer to a letter in your last Friday's paper, signed "*A Subscriber to the Records*," and addressed to Messrs. Rutherfoords, which is prefaced by an assurance on your part that such an appeal to our justice will not remain unanswered, I beg to make the following remarks:—

My brother being in England during the greater part of the time that the Parliamentary Inquiry into the treatment of the Aborigines in the British Settlements was going on, and having informed me that, after his arrival here, he does not recollect to have received any letter from Dr. Philip, then in England, I take it for granted, that if any such letter was received, and any such statement made, as that referred to by "*A Subscriber to the Records*," I am the person implicated.

I admit having seen, a year or two ago, a letter to the same purport as that contained in your last week's paper, and your Correspondent has hit upon the precise reason for my not having paid the slightest attention to it. I looked upon it as "*too palpably absurd*" to require any contradiction." To suppose that Mr. Buxton (who has written and spoken more than most members of the British House of Commons,) should need assistance, to draw up a few pages of a Report on a subject to which much of his time has been devoted in a Committee, of which he was himself the Chairman, did appear to me too ridiculous to notice.

I am sorry, however, to find, that my silence has been misunderstood.—Never having seen the work to which your Correspondent refers, I was not aware, till I read his letter, that notice had been taken of this supposed communication from Dr. Philip to myself in page 2 of the "*Results*," &c. If such be the case, I can only express my regret that any one should have taken for granted the truth of a statement that appears too absurd for refutation.

To come to the point, I recollect receiving two letters (I think not more) from Dr. Philip during his stay in England at the period above referred to. I cannot pretend at this distance of time to recal their contents, but no doubt they alluded to the events of the day, and very probably mentioned the name of Mr. Buxton, with whom he had frequent intercourse; but in order to remove what portion of alarm and indignation may still remain in the mind of your Correspondent or any of his friends, I most unhesitatingly and unequivocally declare, that I do not recollect to have received any communication from Dr. Philip, "stating that he was then on the point of leaving London with Mr. Buxton, in order to assist him in the Report of the House of Commons' Com-



mittee on the treatment of the Aborigines in the British Settlements;" that I do not recollect ever to have made such or any *similar communication* to any person or persons whatever; and that I do not know at this time whether Dr. Philip took any part in arranging the Parliamentary Report, or ever saw it previous to publication.

I should be sorry to think that the rumour alluded to by "*A Subscriber to the Records*" was circulated with a malicious intention; indeed, it appeared too silly an affair to hurt any body! I feel that an apology would be due both to yourself and to your Readers for occupying your pages with such *arrant gossip*, had it not been for the serious way in which you introduced the subject in your last week's paper.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

H. E. RUTHERFOORD.

*Letter in the "Zuid-Afrikaan," published at Cape Town,*

16th April 1841.

Sir,—Mr. Rutherford's remarks in your last paper, relative to the accuracy of a statement published by me in an "Inquiry into the justice and expediency of completing the publication of the Colonial Records," seem to require notice.

The "Inquiry" necessarily contains many grave allegations and proofs, which several persons in this colony are deeply interested in meeting, and as I have advanced nothing on slight grounds, so would I most readily correct any error, and, as far as possible, repair any wrong which may be satisfactorily pointed out, before any copies of the work are sent from the colony.

The progress of truth must be as slow as it is sure, and many of the proofs which I have published, are of such a nature, that they might be elsewhere deemed actually incredible; they shall therefore bear with them, wherever they may go, that best stamp of authority—the tacit admission of those concerned, and my own full admission of any error, which those concerned may enable me to detect.

The work has been published nearly three months, and I have anxiously examined the several strictures which have appeared in the colonial papers, without discovering that I have anything to retract, to explain, or to qualify; for I believe that all those strictures will be found to be sufficiently answered by anticipation in the work itself.

Until the appearance of Mr. Rutherford's letter, I believe myself warranted in saying that none of the facts alleged by me have been contested, and consequently that, until the appearance of that letter, I have perceived nothing which it was necessary that I should answer.

Mr. Rutherford refers to Dr. Philip's rumoured responsibility for the contents of Mr. Buxton's Report, and though avowedly unaware of the terms in which I have noticed that rumour, although he says "I have never seen the work," he has been pleased to censure my notice of the rumour in these terms, "If such be the case (that is, if the rumour in question be noticed in the 'Results'), I can only express my regret that any one should have taken for granted the truth of a statement that appears too absurd for refutation."

Mr. R. has further expressed an opinion that the rumour was "too ridiculous to notice," that it was palpably absurd, that "it appeared too silly an affair to hurt anybody!" that the mere discussion of such a rumour is "*arrant gossip*," and that he "should be sorry to think that the rumour alluded to, was circulated with a malicious intention," and all this in professed ignorance of the nature of the notice to which he adverts.

I, also, should be sorry to give increased circulation to absurd rumours, and still more so to be considered, and considered by Mr. Rutherford, of whom I wish to speak with every courtesy and respect, as capable of entertaining any "malicious intention;" and, if I succeed in satisfying him that the rumour in question may not appear, to those who read what may have been advanced in its support, so palpably absurd as to those who do not, he will perhaps be disposed to admit, that it would have been more advisable as well as more equitable to have read what is said on the subject of the rumour at page 2 of the "Results," before he suggested the possibility of unworthy motives in any of those who circulated it.

It might even have been expected, that if Mr. R. proposed to bestow any notice upon the "Results," and desired to give a *satisfactory* contradiction to what he deemed an "absurd rumour," that he would have chosen to answer the statement of an avowed and responsible author, in preference to that of an anonymous correspondent.

The following are the terms in which the subject is adverted to in the Results :  
*[Here was inserted the extract from the "Results" above given as the first Document.]*

Such were the terms in which I noticed the rumour in question, and I have not as yet seen any reason to qualify them, but will at once confess, that if any thing could add to the weight of the internal evidence which still satisfies my own mind of the "moral responsibility" of Dr. Philip for the chief misstatements in that paper, the manner in which the question has been met by Mr. R. has supplied what was wanted.

The rumour is viewed by Mr. R. as silly and absurd, but upon no other ground than that it was "ridiculous," "to suppose that Mr. Buxton *should need* assistance," and this ground (admitting *that* supposition to be ridiculous), appears hardly sufficient to support the inference ; for, it is evident that assistance may be, and has often been given, where it is not only "not needed," but where, as in the present case, it has proved actually embarrassing and mischievous ; in other cases too numerous to require recital, useful assistance has been actually given where (e. g. Lord Durham's report) it would be still more absurd to suppose that it was actually "needed."

The question—as stated by me—whether Dr. Philip wrote Mr. R. "to the effect that he was about to go down to the country to assist Mr. Buxton in drawing up his report," is, therefore, not in the slightest degree affected by any opinion that may be formed as to Mr. Buxton's *need* of that assistance ; for it may be quite true that it would be ridiculous to suppose that Mr. Buxton should need assistance, and yet equally true that Dr. Philip expressed his intention of assisting, and that he actually did assist.

Mr. R. feels "that an apology would be due both to yourself and your readers, for occupying your pages with such *arrant gossip*, had it not been for the serious way in which you introduced the subject in your last week's paper ;" and it is therefore possible, that he may not deem it necessary to recur to the subject ; although I can assure him, that I am equally serious when I state, that in my opinion, and in the opinion of many others, his letter has *not* accomplished the end he proposes, of "removing what portion of alarm or indignation may still remain ;" but that, on the contrary, the terms in which he has seen fit to word his declaration, seem calculated, of course undersignedly, to confirm the rumour, by leaving room for a belief, not only that Dr. Philip did write to the effect above stated, but that Mr. R. avoids meeting that question, by quoting only the *precise words* which he *does not* recollect Dr. P. to have used ; and by connecting the words "any *similar communication*," not with what Dr. P. may have written, but with what he (Mr. R.) recollects having communicated to others.

I should be just as sorry to think that the peculiar wording of Mr. R.'s declaration arose from any desire to express himself otherwise than "unequivocally," as he to think that the rumour was circulated by me with a "malicious intention ;" but the following are the terms employed by Mr. R., and I leave it to his candour to say, whether they really "come to the point," and whether, however they may have been intended, they do not in fact appear to avoid it with some degree of caution ?

After stating his recollection of receiving, "at the period referred to," "two letters from Dr. Philip during his stay in England," which "very probably mentioned the name of Mr. Buxton, with whom he had frequent intercourse," Mr. R. says, "I most unhesitatingly and unequivocally *declare*, that I do not recollect to have received any communication from Dr. Philip, 'stating that he was then on the point of leaving London with Mr. Buxton, in order to assist him in the Report of the House of Commons Committee on the treatment of the Aborigines in the British Settlements' ; that I do not recollect to have made such, or any *similar communication* to any person or persons whatever ; and that I do not know at this time whether Dr. Philip took any part in arranging the Parliamentary Report, or ever saw it previous to publication."

If Mr. Rutherford should now see cause to remove the doubt, which I think he will admit his words are calculated to create, by stating whether he recollects having received any "*similar communication*," or, as I have stated it, "a

"communication to the effect," &c. I again repeat, that his statement will be by me, and I trust by the Public, "implicitly believed;" but that statement can only go to fix such portion of the facts as may remain in Mr. R.'s recollection, unless the discovery of the letters themselves, or of some other means of refreshing memory, should enable him to contradict the fact, in which case also his contradiction would be "implicitly believed." In the absence, however, of that contradiction, and in the absence also of any statement from Mr. R. that he does not recollect *receiving* any similar communication, he will readily pardon me for stating that he has as yet advanced nothing whatever to shake, but much to confirm, what I then believed—and am, by him, still permitted to believe—credible information, that a communication to the effect mentioned was *actually seen* in a letter addressed to him by Dr. Philip "at the period referred to."

The Report in question being dated 26th June, 1837, that period cannot be very remote, probably about four years, and when Mr. R. does recollect the "precise reason" of his "not having paid the slightest attention to a letter to the same purport," "a year or two ago," *i. e.* that it was "palpably absurd," it does appear somewhat singular, that he does not also now recollect the "precise" reasoning which then led him to this conclusion.

The "*precise reason*" stated by Mr. R. for not noticing the rumour a year or two ago was, "it was too palpably absurd to *require contradiction*," from which the Public may infer, that but for its palpable absurdity,—still fresh in Mr. R.'s recollection,—it would have been contradicted, "a year or two ago," and, if capable of contradiction *then*, it is difficult to understand why it is not capable of contradiction *now*; unless it be intended to argue that it was not Dr. Philip's expressed intention of assisting, but only Mr. Buxton's need of assistance that could require contradiction; a line of argument which would seem to involve an admission that Dr. P. had really intimated that intention.

But let it be assumed that Mr. R. can, and consequently will, distinctly state that he does not recollect *receiving* "any similar communication," or even that he is enabled to state positively that he received no communication to that effect, the question of Dr. Philip's share in "arranging the Report," of which Mr. R., "at this time," knows nothing, remains *entirely untouched*; and the public will, perhaps, attach more importance to Mr. R.'s opinion of the absurdity of that belief, should he see cause to express that opinion after having read the work, in which HE "takes for granted," that the author assumes "the truth of a statement that appears too absurd for refutation."

If Mr. R. will take the trouble to collate the Researches in South Africa, with the Report to which Mr. Buxton has unfortunately lent the sanction of his high name, or even to glance over the proofs contained in the "Results," he will readily perceive, and, no doubt, as readily admit, why it is that his letter has materially strengthened that internal evidence which, upon the appearance of the Committee's Report, confirmed my belief in the correctness of my previous information, and which still satisfies my mind that whatever Mr. R. may know "at this time," Mr. Buxton *will* not, and Dr. Philip *dare* not, deny the truth of my position, that he is the person morally responsible for, if not in fact the actual writer of these, proved, tacitly acknowledged, and indefensible misstatements relative to South Africa, the exposure of which, whether in the "Researches," or in the "Report," is the subject of the "Inquiry," I have felt it my duty to publish; and which misstatements are only to be accounted for, consistently with the respect due to the high character of Mr. Buxton, by the ascertained fact that he is not the only good man who has suffered himself to be misled by an undue reliance upon the "voluntary zeal of individuals."

Mr. Rutherford has, I think, entitled me to require of him, before the public can expect me to qualify any part of my former statement, a plain answer to the question *as stated by me*. I cannot expect Mr. R., or any other person who may dislike "hearing both sides of the question," to endanger his political faith by reading the "Results;" I would indeed strongly recommend all who have made up their minds against conviction, to eschew of all things the perusal of proofs which, it would seem, are not to be contested;—but as Mr. R. has been pleased to accompany his reply to what he has not seen, with an expression of censure, while he cites the words of an anonymous writer upon the same subject, I humbly conceive that my undisputed statement, as above cited, now partially confirmed by Mr. R. himself, is entitled to the full credit of the

public; and in the event of that statement not being met by an equally distinct contradiction, that it is still further confirmed by the tacit admission of Mr. Rutherford.

I am, &c.

D. MOODIE.

[The allegation proposed to be explained, as above cited, *now* rests upon the circumstance, that up to this date (October 4th 1841), Mr. Moodie's letters of the 16th April, and 6th July 1841, *have not been answered*.—D. M.]

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ERRATA—p. 55—42d line, for “Eastward of the Kie,” &c., read “*Westward* of the Kie,” &c.

*In some Copies*, p. 64, 32d line, for:—“and the in historical portion of the Parliamentary Report;” read:—“and *in the* historical,” &c.

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(Circular.)

## TO THE SUBSCRIBERS FOR THE PUBLICATION OF THE COLONIAL RECORDS.

Gentlemen,

I avail myself of the opportunity offered by the printing of these letters, to place before you the present state of the publication of the Records; in order to afford you the means of forming the decision by which I must be guided, in continuing or relinquishing that undertaking.

The public spirit of a few gentlemen in Cape Town, and the expectation of your support, encouraged me to commence that publication:—the support which I have actually received from you has enabled me to continue it thus far:—and—if I must now discontinue it—the sole cause will be, whatever circumstance may have retarded the collection of enough of your subscriptions to defray the cost of publication; although that cost would be met by little more than one half of the amount nominally subscribed, independently of the contribution of the Government.

My own inaptitude for such financial detail, and some defects in the means of collecting or transmitting from the several country districts, are here chiefly to be blamed—if I may judge from the readiness with which the subscribers, generally, have fulfilled their engagements where within reach of a special application.

The forthcoming issue of 12 Numbers completes my engagement of last February: and will render generally accessible the evidence of the relations between the European and native races in South Africa, from 1652 to 1690—Collins' Reports 1808-9—and some of the very important papers, adverted to in the preceding Correspondence, which have been saved from the “ashes of the commandos of last century,” and thus made available to the objects contemplated in publishing the Records.

You will perceive that I entertain a strong opinion of the value of the compilation, in a general and permanent, as well as in a local and temporary point of view.

As a matter of general philosophical interest, it is probable that there is not to be found elsewhere, in print or manuscript, such an unbroken series of authentic evidence of the transactions between Europeans and uncivilized men, for nearly two centuries: while—to say nothing of the merely literary curiosities which have been found—the political bearings of such a series of evidence are not to be overlooked.

At different periods, public writers and public men,—arguing from premises as opposite as their respective hemispheres—seem



—to use a familiar illustration—to have been playing at “*cross purposes*” upon this subject.

If common and correct data could be furnished to all alike, it is conceived that the grounds of difference would at least be materially narrowed, and the more serious of the inconveniences of ignorant, or of empirical, interference effectually removed.

I believe that when a few conflicting feelings and interests shall have passed away, the correctness of my estimate of the importance of these papers will be generally acknowledged;\* it is my present object to prevent the acknowledgement from coming too late; or at least to place it upon record that the fault did not rest with the person who ought to be best acquainted with the nature of the contents of the unpublished papers.

Upon these points, however, you should, and no doubt will, receive the opinions of a compiler with some reservation: but I have also submitted to you a variety of proofs; and I am about to place in your hands some new “Evidence” which will enable you to judge for yourselves whether the instances I have specified are, or are not, solitary or extreme.

It is not for me, but for you, to judge of the value of the information contained in the papers already published, and in those which will soon appear; and to be guided by such estimate as you may thus be enabled to form of the importance of those which remain behind.

I can only respectfully request that you may be pleased, if necessary, to satisfy yourselves upon these points *without delay*, for, in as far as I am concerned, I regret to say that the publication of the Records by me, in anticipation of the eventual recovery of small subscriptions from parties scattered over such an extent of country, must of necessity cease in a few days.

I shall now beg leave to submit to you a few details which may assist you in the formation of your decision.

When the compilation had been brought to an advanced stage by the labour of several years, and at considerable cost to the Government as well as to myself; the former assistance ceased, while the essential work of translation and printing still remained to be executed.

An integral portion of that work has been executed notwithstanding; thirty six numbers of sixteen quarto pages each, containing the translated Records of Forty six years—one fourth of the whole period of your history—*have been* published; at what cost to me is here immaterial; but at the expense, to each subscriber for one copy, of thirty six shillings,—about the price of an ordinary novel—and to the Government of £90 for 50 copies.

\* *Vide* Postscript.



The publication of these 36 numbers—being frequently interrupted by my other avocations—has occupied exactly the same number of months; and as the *impression*, or number of Copies,—originally 400—is now reduced to about 350 complete copies; it may be readily ascertained whether the work can be so expedited—consistently with its proper execution—as to render its publication a *profitable* employment to the Editor.

You may observe by the subjoined list that 225 copies have been subscribed for by you individually, and the list of private subscribers is progressively increasing:—*but*—from whatever cause it may have arisen—I find upon inquiry, that 146 subscriptions for the first 12 numbers, 132 for the second, and 14 for the third—are all that have been actually received; and that these include the Government subscription, and further payments (for copies) improperly received from the gentlemen who had equitably entitled themselves to exemption by the donation of various sums towards the commencement of the work.

Therefore:—whatever opinion may be formed, now or hereafter, upon the intrinsic importance of the compilation upon which so much has been expended:—however desirable its publication may seem in the *abstract* opinion of the Colonial public—and it has not as yet been submitted to the public elsewhere—the facts just stated are sufficient to show that I have no alternative but to bow to *this expression* of the sense of the Colony; and to rest satisfied with not having thrown away the fruits of some years labour, until I had exhausted every means within my reach of rendering them available to the true history of Colonization in South Africa.

It will perhaps be admitted that the work deserves, either effectual support, or *none*: I beg therefore to state, for general information, that—should it be the desire of the Colony, that the work should proceed,—it has become necessary that I should be henceforth relieved from all responsibility for expences beyond my means: and, if possible, from all concern with the details—altogether foreign to my tastes and habits—of the outlay for publication, and the proceeds of subscription.

But:—should you, Gentlemen, who in this matter may be considered to represent the Colony—wish me to proceed with the work, I shall most willingly prosecute—to completion if possible—a labour which has become habitual, and, to me, highly interesting, speedily, or otherwise, as you may determine upon one or other of the two proposals which I have now the honor to submit to your consideration.

1st.—It is probable that punctual payment, at the present rate, for 300 copies would—together with what may be contributed by

Government,—enable me to defray all the attendant charges, and to expedite the work, by giving it the greater portion of my time and attention : but, should you see cause to provide immediate payment in Cape Town, upon publication, *for the number of copies for which you have now individually subscribed*, I shall proceed as speedily as circumstances will allow :—or :—

21.—Should you provide, from your own subscriptions or otherwise, for the payment of the printing, independently of my responsibility; I shall, as willingly, employ my leisure hours—in as far as necessary avocations will permit,—in translating and publishing, occasionally, the papers I have compiled or marked for extract.

When the forthcoming numbers, 1774—7, shall have reached the several districts, there will be before the Colony all the means I can supply for the formation of the decision by which I must be guided; and I may perhaps be permitted to suggest that that decision can only be ascertained from the subscribers of the several districts *collectively*, should they favor me by so expressing it.

On the other hand should you decline both the proposals which I have submitted; or should you favor me with no authoritative expression of your desire upon the subject—and thus abandon to conjecture the residue of your history—the object of this reference is equally answered; and I can only express my respectful thanks for the encouragement and support which has enabled me to proceed thus far; and as respectfully suggest, to such of the subscribers as have hitherto favored me with their countenance, the equity of my being relieved,—as far as may be—from sacrifices,—in my circumstances by no means inconsiderable,—by their early fulfilment of those engagements which induced me to incur the pecuniary, as well as the other responsibilities of the work.

I have the honor to be,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient Servant,

D. MOODIE.

Cape Town, October 5, 1841.

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#### POSTSCRIPT.

A gratifying confirmation of my own opinions has reached me while this sheet was passing through the press. The “*Annales*” of the recently established “Institut D’Afrique” contain (p. 39) a notice of the receipt—from our fellow-colonist Lieut.-Col. A. J. Cloete, who is a Vice President of the Institution—of the portion of the Records which you have enabled me to print. The

following extract from a letter addressed to Col. Cloete, dated Paris, 8th April 1841, and signed by the *Prince de Rohan Rochefort*, President, and *Hip. De Saint Anthoine*, General Secretary:—will perhaps satisfy the Subscribers in this Colony, that:—"they manage these matters better in France."

INSTITUT D'AFRIQUE.

"Paris le 8 Avril 1841.


"Colonel,

"Le Conseil nous charge de vous adresser votre diplôme, et de vous remercier de la bienveillante lettre du 20 Novembre 1840, et que lui est parvenue le 27 Mar: dernier.

Nous vous remercions des documens intéressans que vous avez bien voulu adresser à l'Institut, et qu'il ne manquera pas de publier. Ils ont d' autant plus d'intérêt qu' ils viennent d' une source officielle, et d' un théâtre ou se dénoue la grande expérience Anglaise. Personne plus que vous Colonel, n' est à même de juger de l' importance morale de notre Institution, et des efforts qu'il nous faut faire pour étendre notre influence civilisatrice sur le vaste continent Africain, et personne plus que nous ne sent le prix de votre honorable adhésion. Cest avec l' assistance des esprits généreux que la barbarie finira par céder à la civilization."

Agréé, &c.

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 The annexed List will be kept open at *the Publisher's* until the 1st December next, and *no longer*; till then, the few remaining Copies of the Record will be disposable to new Subscribers *in the Colony*; a List of whom, together with a particular account of the results of this reference to the Subscribers, will then be published.

D. M.

October 15, 1841.

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# LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS

## FOR THE

### PUBLICATION OF THE CAPE RECORDS.

*[The gentlemen to whose names an asterisk is affixed, contributed various sums, in all £59. 5, to commence the printing.]*

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